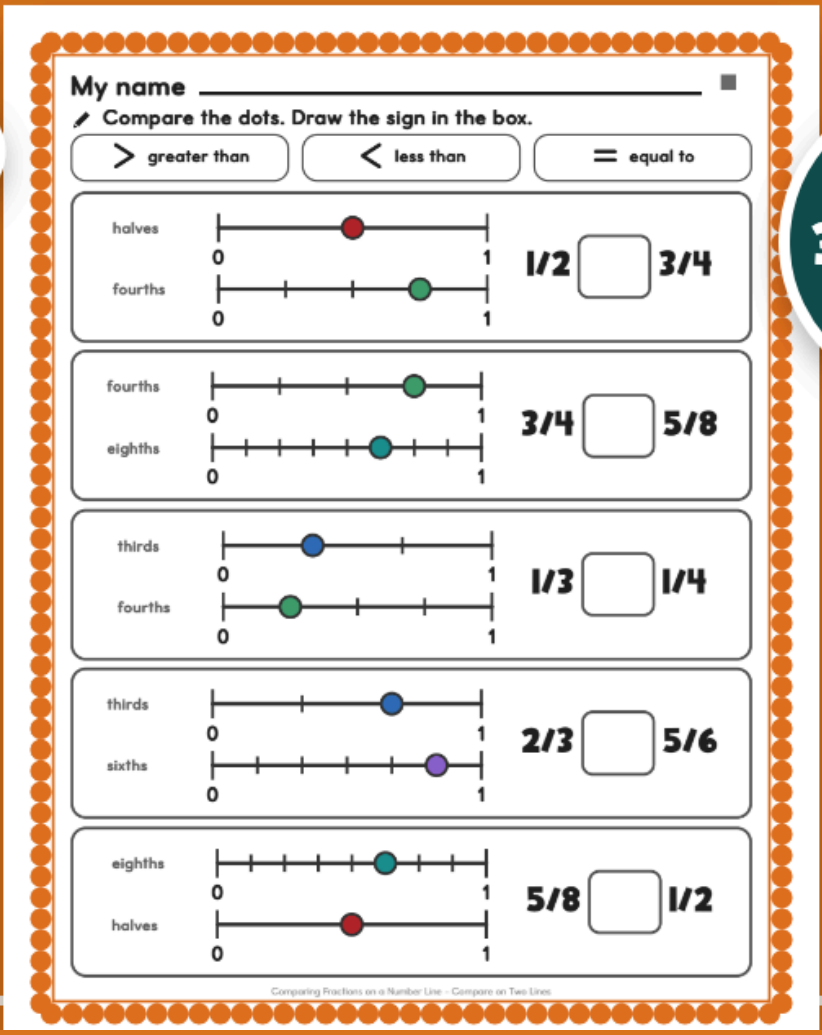
COMPARING FRACTIONS ON A NUMBER LINE

GRADES 3-4


My name _____

Compare the dots. Draw the sign in the box.

> greater than | < less than | = equal to

halves — fourths: 1/2 ☐ 3/4

fourths — eighths: 3/4 ☐ 5/8

thirds — fourths: 1/3 ☐ 1/4

thirds — sixths: 2/3 ☐ 5/6

eighths — halves: 5/8 ☐ 1/2

Comparing Fractions on a Number Line - Compare on Two Lines

37 PAGES

Bright Path Sped

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This is a fillable PDF

- Open it in a PDF reader (Adobe Acrobat Reader, Preview, or your browser), click into a line or a box, type, and Save As.
- The name lines, the answer blanks and sign boxes on the practice pages, the family note and every notes area are type-in fields. The posters and the number line models are print pages. You can also print any page and write by hand.
- It works offline. No account, no subscription, no internet connection needed after you download it.

Print at 100 percent

Turn off fit to page and shrink to fit so the cut pieces keep their size. Every page is readable in black and white, and the Farther Right poster and every student page come in an ink-saver copy. Posters look best on cardstock; the cards children cut are fine on copy paper.

Need help?

If a field will not behave or a page will not print the way you expect, use Ask a Question on the product page before leaving a review. Every question is read, and a fix to the file ships as an update.

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PREVIEW

How to Teach It: Four Short Routines

Each one takes a few minutes. Draw or show the line first, then say the numbers.

1. Place it on the line

- Show a line from 0 to 1 cut into 4 equal steps. Say: "The bottom number tells how many equal steps. The top number tells how many steps from 0."
- Place 3/4 together: count 3 steps from 0 and make a dot (page 9). For the name-the-dot and nearest-mark pages, say: "Count the equal steps, then the steps from 0 to the dot. Look at 0, 1/2 and 1."

2. Stack two lines

- Show the poster (page 5). Both lines are the same length, one cut in halves and one in fourths.
- Mark 1/2 and 3/4. Ask: "Which dot is farther right? So which fraction is greater?" Remind children: the dots farther to the right are greater. Before the word problems, read each aloud and tell children the names are invented.

3. Same spot, equal

- Mark 1/2 on the halves line and 2/4 on the fourths line. Ask: "What do you notice about the two dots?"
- Two fractions at the same spot are equal (page 15).

4. Use a benchmark

- Show the benchmark poster (page 7). Ask: "Is the dot nearest 0, 1/2 or 1?"
- Send the family note home (page 36) so families can try it too.

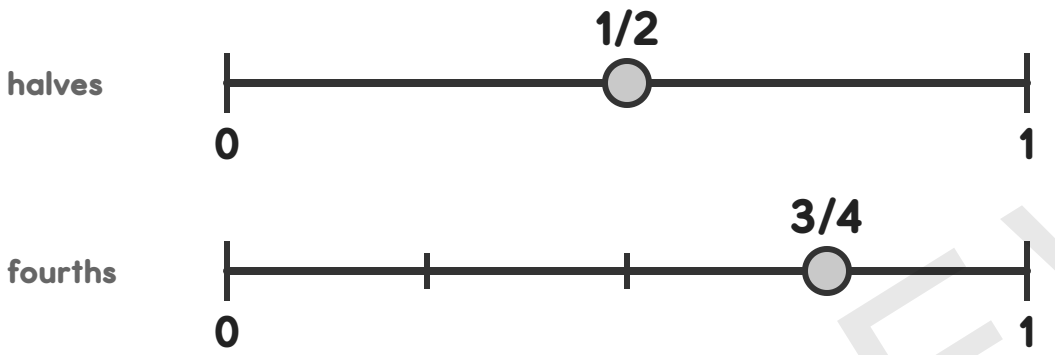
PREVIEW

Notes on your day

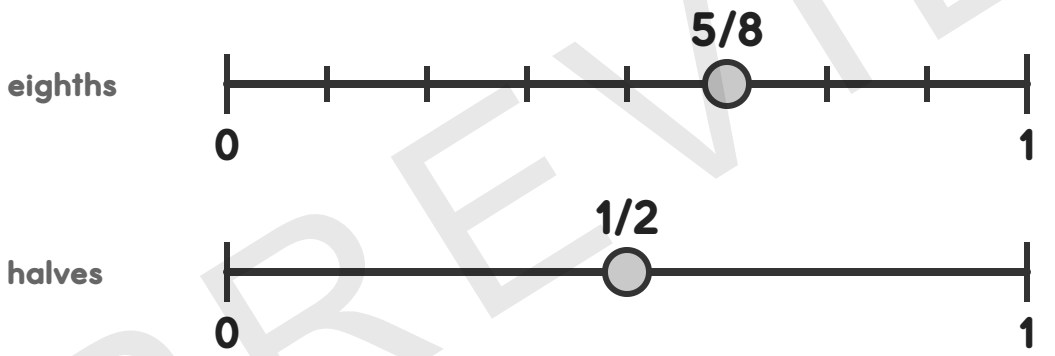
Preview · Bright Path Sped

FARTHER RIGHT IS GREATER

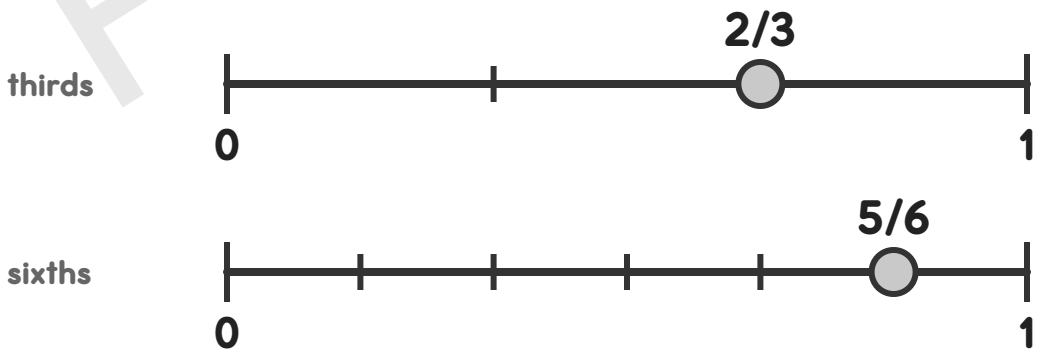
Same size line, same 0 and 1. Find each dot.



1/2 < 3/4



5/8 > 1/2



2/3 < 5/6

The dot farther to the right

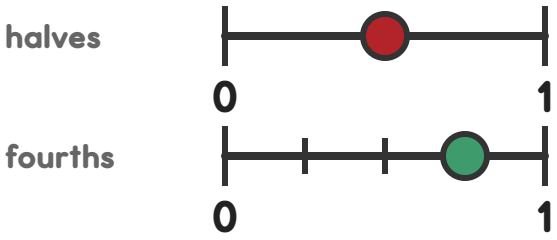
is the greater fraction.

PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Sped

Cut the charts apart. Glue one in your notebook.

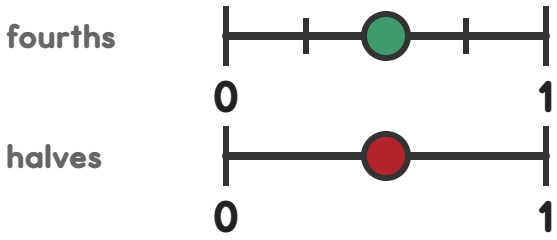
FARTHER RIGHT



1/2 < 3/4

The dot farther right is the greater fraction.

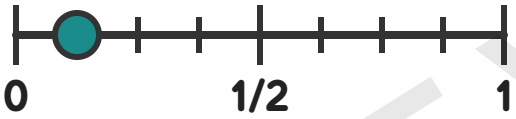
SAME SPOT, EQUAL



2/4 = 1/2

Two fractions at the same spot are equal.

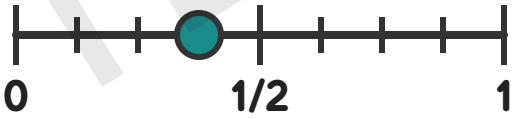
CLOSER TO 0



1/8 IS CLOSER TO 0

Which mark is the dot nearest?

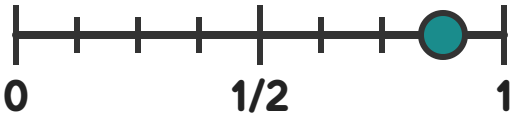
CLOSER TO 1/2



3/8 IS CLOSER TO 1/2

Which mark is the dot nearest?

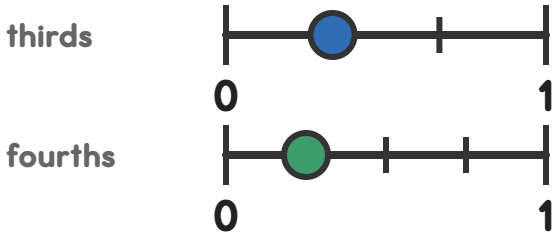
CLOSER TO 1



7/8 IS CLOSER TO 1

Which mark is the dot nearest?

DIFFERENT CUTS



1/3 > 1/4

Same size line, different size steps.

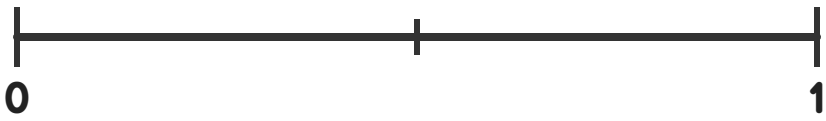
PREVIEW

Preview - Bright Path Sped

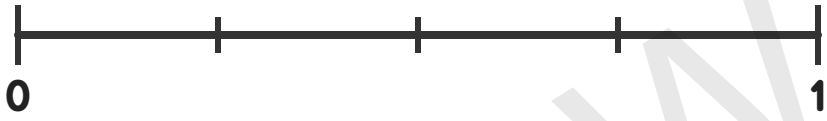
My name _____

Count the steps from 0. Draw a dot.

1/2 halves



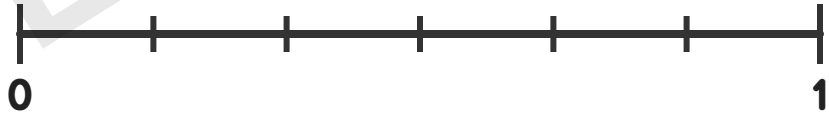
3/4 fourths



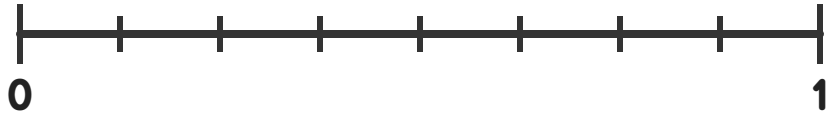
2/3 thirds



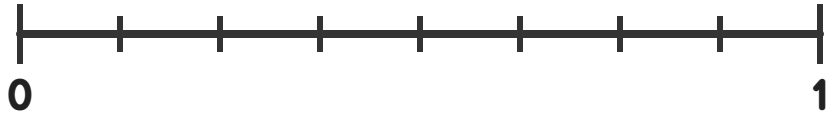
5/6 sixths



3/8 eighths



5/8 eighths



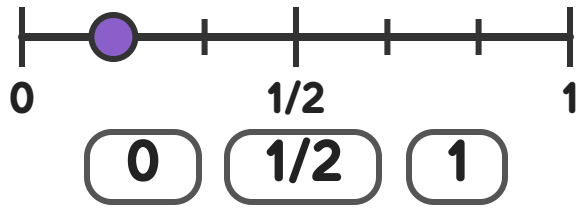
PREVIEW

Preview : Bright Path Sped

My name _____

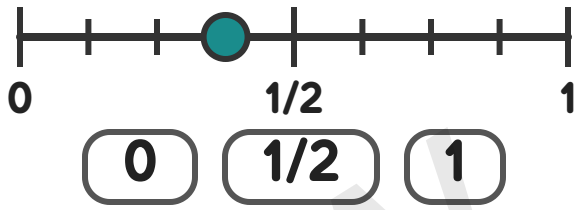
Which mark is the dot nearest? Circle it.

1/6 is closest to



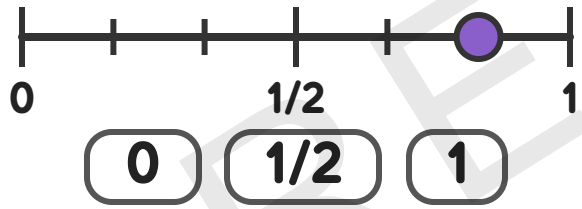
0 | 1/2 | 1

3/8 is closest to



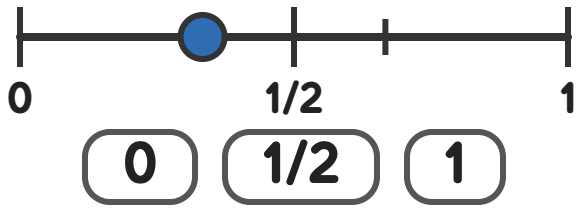
0 | 1/2 | 1

5/6 is closest to



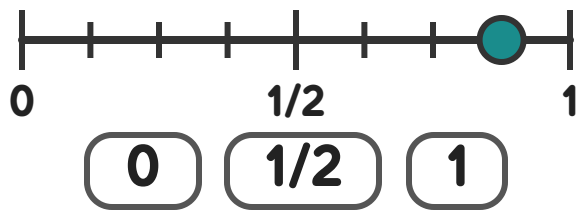
0 | 1/2 | 1

1/3 is closest to



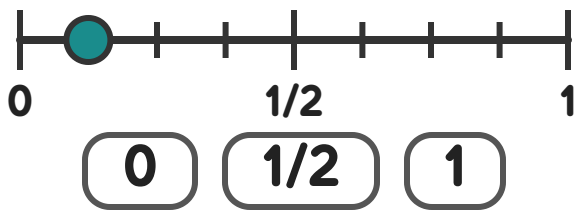
0 | 1/2 | 1

7/8 is closest to



0 | 1/2 | 1

1/8 is closest to



0 | 1/2 | 1

PREVIEW

Preview : Bright Path Sped

My name _____

Glue each card from page 12 in the right row.

closer to **0**

glue here

glue here

closer to **1/2**

glue here

glue here

closer to **1**

glue here

glue here

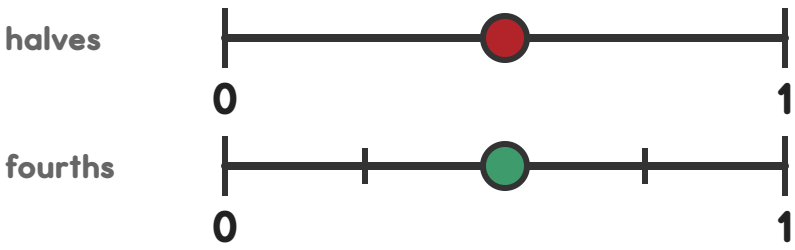
PREVIEW

Preview : Bright Path Sped

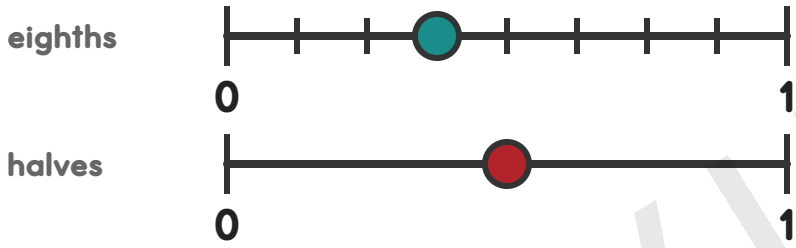
My name _____

Same spot or not? Draw the sign in the box.

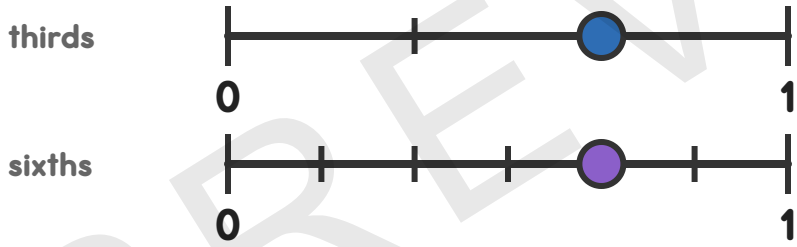
> greater than	< less than	= equal to



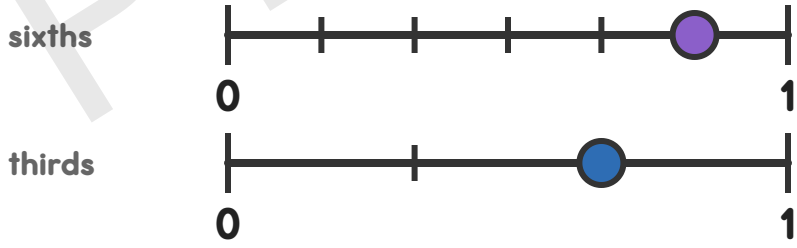
1/2 ☐ 2/4



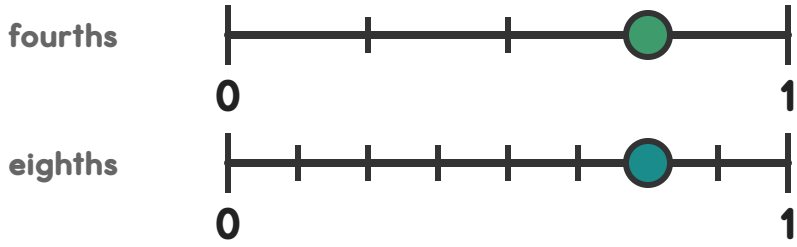
3/8 ☐ 1/2



2/3 ☐ 4/6



5/6 ☐ 2/3



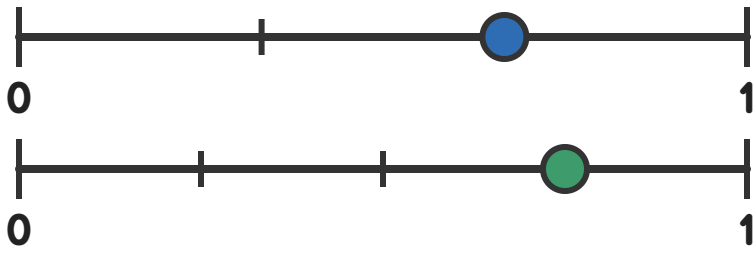
3/4 ☐ 6/8

PREVIEW

Preview : Bright Path Sped

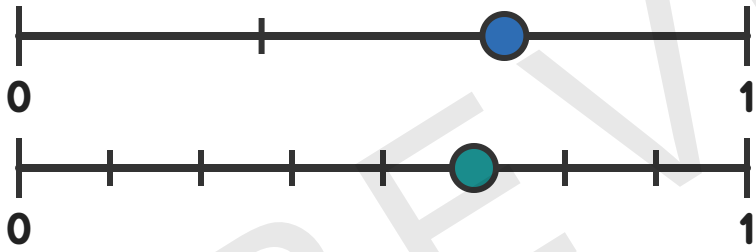
My name _____

Look at both dots. Circle the greater. Tell why.



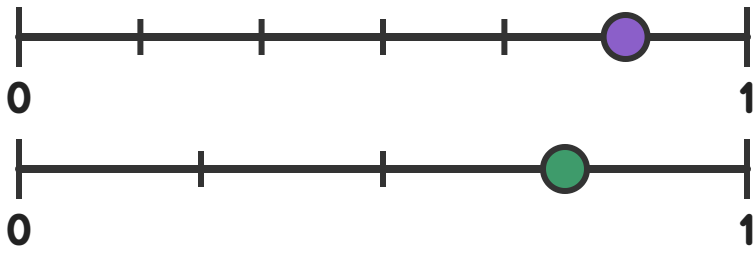
2/3 3/4

I know because _____



2/3 5/8

I know because _____



5/6 3/4

I know because _____

PREVIEW

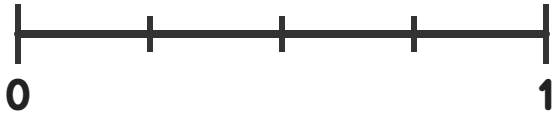
Preview - Bright Path Shed

My name _____

Show what you know. Do your best.

1

Draw a dot at **3/4**



2

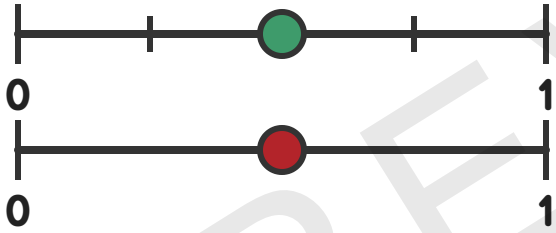
Write the fraction the dot shows.



The dot shows _____

3

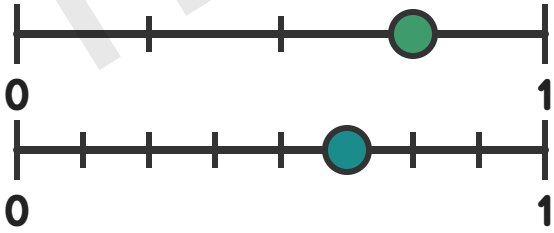
Draw the sign in the box.



2/4 ☐ **1/2**

4

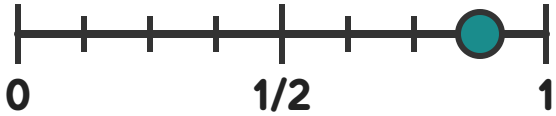
Draw the sign in the box.



3/4 ☐ **5/8**

5

7/8 is closest to



0 1/2 1

6

Write in order, least to greatest.

1/2 1/4 3/8

_____ ▶ _____ ▶ _____

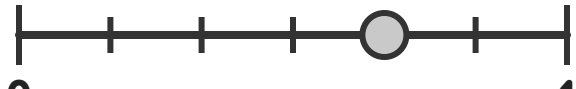
PREVIEW

My name _____

Look at the dot. Circle its fraction.



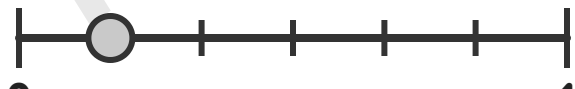
1/4 2/4 3/4



3/6 4/6 5/6



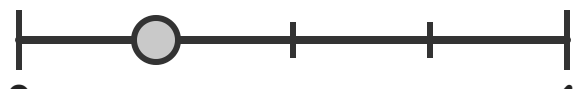
4/8 5/8 6/8



1/6 2/6 3/6



5/8 6/8 7/8



1/4 2/4 3/4

PREVIEW

My name _____

Glue each card from page 12 in the right row.

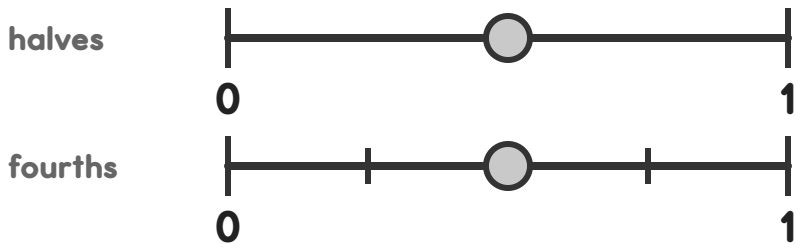
closer to **0**	glue here	glue here
closer to **1/2**	glue here	glue here
closer to **1**	glue here	glue here

PREVIEW

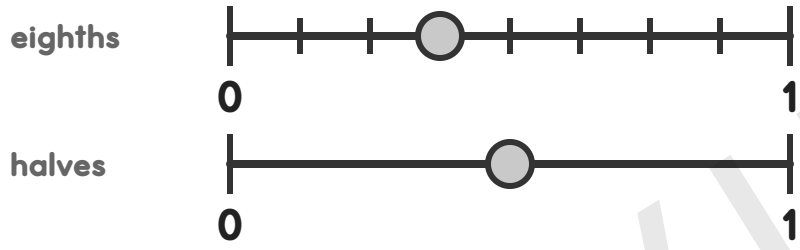
My name _____

Same spot or not? Draw the sign in the box.

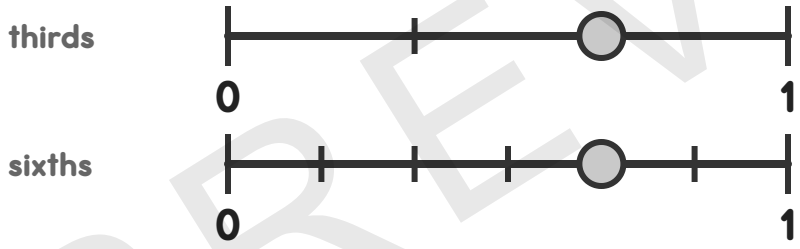
> greater than	< less than	= equal to



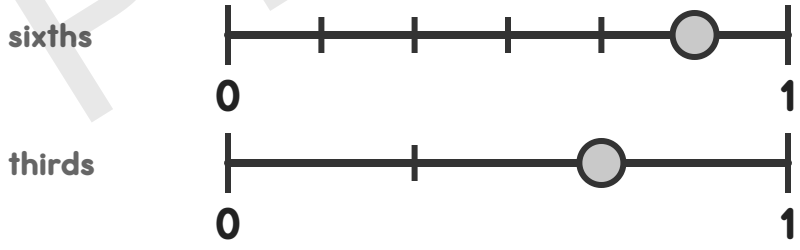
1/2 ☐ 2/4



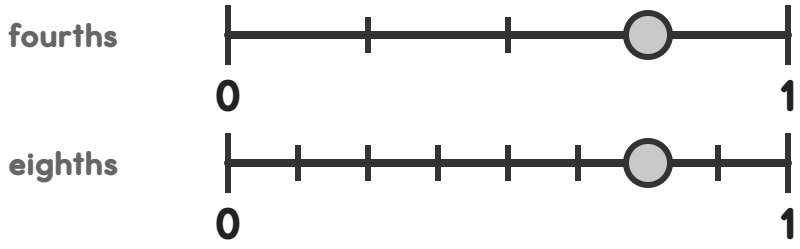
3/8 ☐ 1/2



2/3 ☐ 4/6



5/6 ☐ 2/3

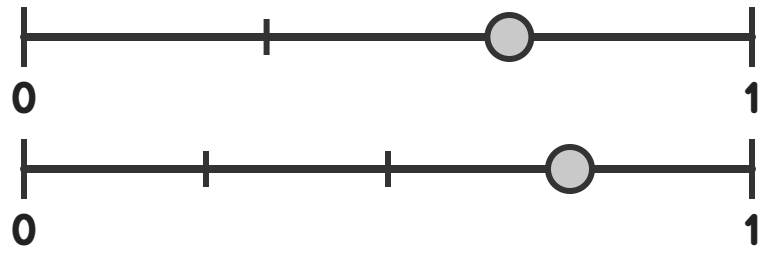


3/4 ☐ 6/8

PREVIEW

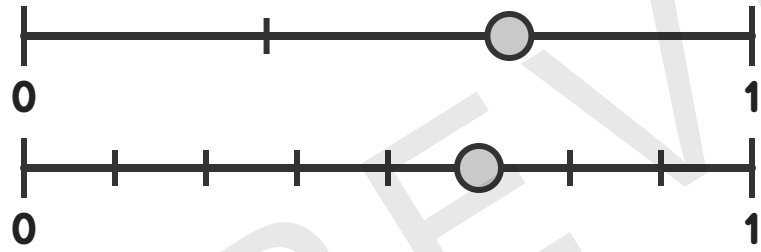
My name _____

Look at both dots. Circle the greater. Tell why.



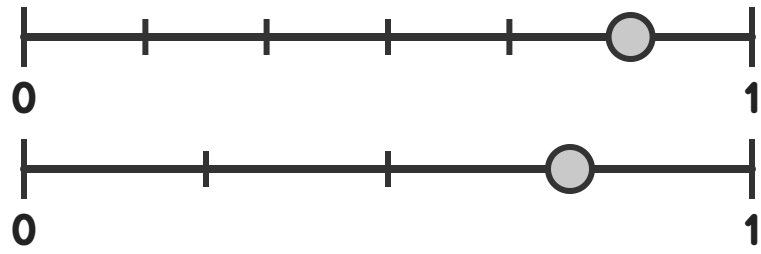
2/3 3/4

I know because _____



2/3 5/8

I know because _____



5/6 3/4

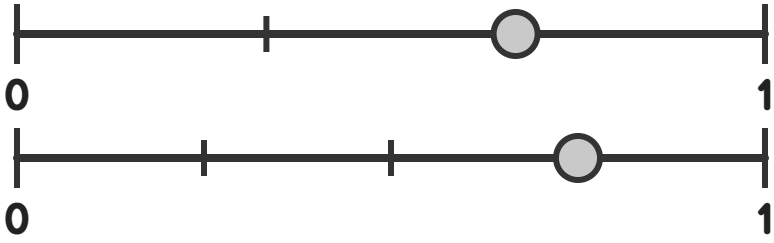
I know because _____

PREVIEW

My name _____

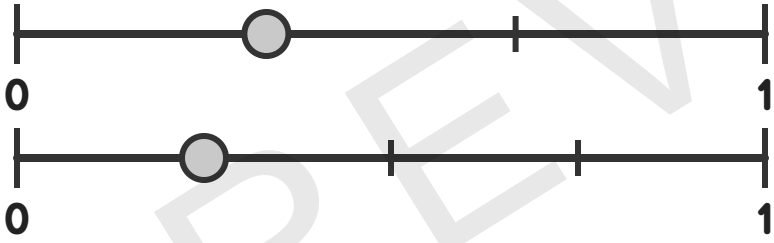
Read the problem. Look at the dots. Write the answer.

Pan A is 2/3 full of soup. Pan B is 3/4 full of soup. The pans are the same size. Which pan has less soup?



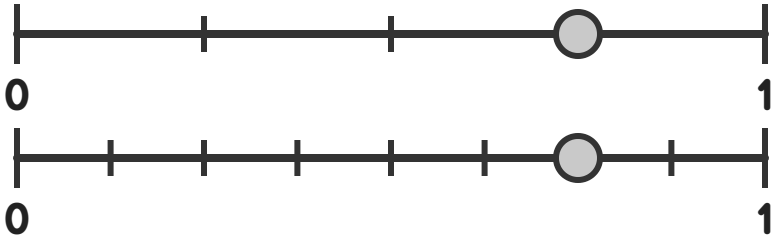
Answer: _____

Rosa ran 1/3 mile. Sam ran 1/4 mile. Who ran less?



Answer: _____

Bed A is 3/4 planted. Bed B is 6/8 planted. The beds are the same size. Are the beds planted the same amount?



Answer: _____

PREVIEW

Filled Example: One Child's Page

The page is Same Spot or Not (page 15). Mia (invented child). The child, the teacher and every answer on this page are invented.

Item	The pair	Right sign	Mia wrote	Right?
1	1/2 and 2/4	=	=	yes
2	3/8 and 1/2	<	<	yes
3	2/3 and 4/6	=	<	no
4	5/6 and 2/3	>	<	no
5	3/4 and 6/8	=	=	yes

Reading the page

3 of 5 signs were right. Items 3 and 4 were wrong.

On item 3, 2/3 and 4/6 land at the same spot on their lines, so 2/3 is equal to 4/6. Mia drew a less-than sign, as if the two dots were in different places.

On item 4, 5/6 is farther right than 2/3, so 5/6 is greater than 2/3. Mia drew the sign the other way.

What the teacher did next

The teacher had Mia draw a dot for 2/3 and for 4/6 on a clean copy of the lines. Mia saw that both dots sat on the same mark. Then the teacher asked which dot was farther right for item 4.

What this example is not

One invented child's page. It sets no typical score, says nothing about any real child and predicts nothing.

My notes on the page

PREVIEW

Key: Two Lines, Same Spot, Order and Why

Accept a sign drawn a little crooked. The point of the sign faces the smaller fraction.

Compare on two lines (page 14)

Item	The pair	Sign	Why
1	1/2 and 3/4	<	3/4 is farther right
2	3/4 and 5/8	>	3/4 is farther right
3	1/3 and 1/4	>	1/3 is farther right
4	2/3 and 5/6	<	5/6 is farther right
5	5/8 and 1/2	>	5/8 is farther right

Same spot or not (page 15)

Item	The pair	Sign	Why
1	1/2 and 2/4	=	same spot
2	3/8 and 1/2	<	1/2 is farther right
3	2/3 and 4/6	=	same spot
4	5/6 and 2/3	>	5/6 is farther right
5	3/4 and 6/8	=	same spot

Put them in order (page 16)

Item	Order	Write
1	least to greatest	3/8, 1/2, 3/4
2	greatest to least	7/8, 1/2, 1/4
3	least to greatest	1/3, 1/2, 5/6

Say why (page 17)

Item	Greater	Because (accept the child's words)
1	3/4	On the lines, the dot for 3/4 is farther right than the dot for 2/3.
2	2/3	On the lines, the dot for 2/3 is farther right than the dot for 5/8.
3	5/6	On the lines, the dot for 5/6 is farther right than the dot for 3/4.

My notes on the answers

PREVIEW

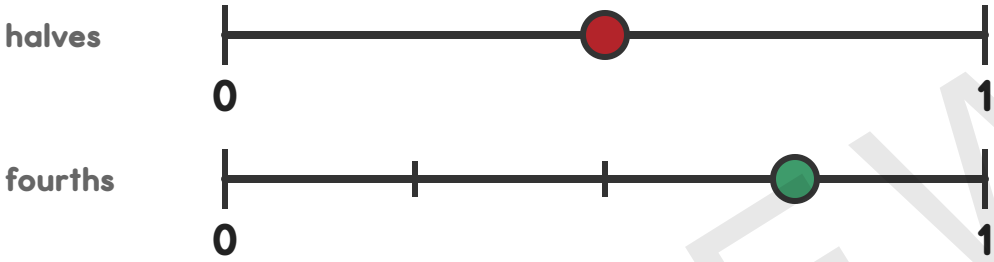
A Note Home: Fractions on a Number Line

One page to send home when you start comparing fractions on a number line.

Date _____ Class _____ Teacher _____

Dear families,

This week we are comparing fractions on a number line. A number line from 0 to 1 is cut into equal steps. The bottom number tells how many equal steps. The top number tells how many steps from 0. The fraction farther to the right is the greater fraction.



1/2 is less than 3/4.

This week we are practicing

_____

_____

You can try this at home

Draw a line on paper and mark 0 at one end and 1 at the other. Fold it in half and mark 1/2. Ask: "Is 3/4 to the left or the right of 1/2? Which is greater?"

_____

_____

A note from me (your words)

_____

_____

Thank you, (teacher) _____ Family signature, if your school asks for one _____

PREVIEW