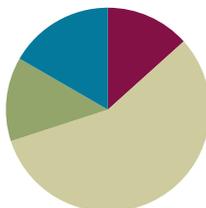


Lesson 18

Objective: Compare fractions and whole numbers on the number line by reasoning about their distance from 0.

Suggested Lesson Structure

■ Fluency Practice	(8 minutes)
■ Application Problem	(8 minutes)
■ Concept Development	(34 minutes)
■ Student Debrief	(10 minutes)
Total Time	(60 minutes)



Fluency Practice (8 minutes)

- Draw Number Bonds of 1 Whole **3.NF.1** (4 minutes)
- Place Fractions on the Number Line **3.NF.2b** (4 minutes)

Draw Number Bonds of 1 Whole (4 minutes)

Materials: (S) Personal white board

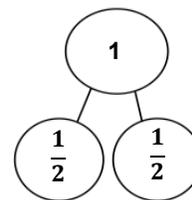
Note: This activity reviews the concept of making copies of a unit fraction to build a whole.

T: On your personal white board, draw a number bond to partition 1 whole into halves.

S: (Draw a number bond.)

T: How many copies of 1 half did you draw to make 1 whole?

S: 2 copies.



Continue with the following possible sequence: thirds, fourths, fifths, sixths, sevenths, and eighths. Have students draw the models side by side and compare to notice patterns at the end.

Place Fractions on the Number Line (4 minutes)

Materials: (S) Personal white board

Note: This activity reviews the concept of placing fractions on a number line from Topic D.

T: (Project a number line marked at 0, 1, 2, and 3.) Draw my number line on your board.

S: (Draw.)

T: Estimate to mark and label 1 third in the interval 0 to 1.

S: (Estimate the point between 0 and 1 and write $\frac{1}{3}$.)

T: Write 3 thirds on your number line. Label the point as a fraction.

S: (Write $\frac{3}{3}$ above the 1 on the number line.)

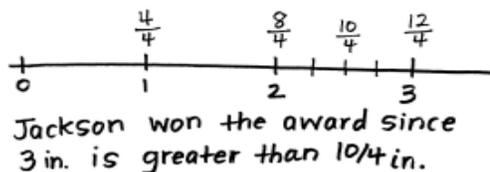
Continue with the following possible sequence: $\frac{6}{3}, \frac{9}{3}, \frac{4}{3}, \frac{7}{3}, \frac{2}{3}$, and $\frac{8}{3}$.

Application Problem (8 minutes)

MP.2

Third-grade students are growing peppers. The student with the longest pepper wins the Green Thumb award. Jackson’s pepper measured 3 inches long. Drew’s measured $\frac{10}{4}$ inches long. Who won the award?

Draw a number line to help prove your answer.



Note: This problem reviews the concept of placing fractions on a number line from Topic D. It is also used during the Concept Development to discuss a fraction’s distance from 0.

Concept Development (34 minutes)

Materials: (T) Large-scale number line partitioned into thirds (description below), 4 containers, 4 beanbags (or balled-up pieces of paper), sticky notes (S) Work from Application Problem

T: Look at the number line I’ve created on the floor. Let’s use it to measure and compare.

T: This number line shows the interval from 0 to 1. (Place sticky notes with 0 and 1 written on them in the appropriate places.) What fractional unit does the number line show?

S: Thirds.

T: Let’s place containers on $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{2}{3}$. (Select volunteers to place containers.)

S: (Place containers.)

T: How can we use our thirds to help us place $\frac{1}{6}$ on this number line?

S: $\frac{1}{6}$ is right in the middle of the first third. (Place a container on $\frac{1}{6}$.)



NOTE ON MATERIALS:

Before the lesson, use masking tape to make a large-scale number line from 0 to 1 on the floor or in the hallway. Partition the interval evenly into thirds. Try to make the 0 and 1 far apart.

- T: Looking at the number line, where can we place our last container so that it is the greatest distance from 0?
- S: On 1. → On this number line, it has to be 1 because the interval is from 0 to 1. → 1 is the farthest point from 0 on this number line. (Place a container on 1.)
- T: Suppose we invite 4 volunteers to come up. Each volunteer takes a turn to stand at 0 and toss a beanbag into one of the containers. Which container will be the hardest, and which will be the easiest to toss the beanbag into? Why?
- S: The container at 1 will be the hardest because it's the farthest away from 0. → The container at $\frac{1}{6}$ will be easy. It's close to 0.
- T: Let's have volunteers toss. (Each volunteer tosses a beanbag into a given container. They toss in the following order: $\frac{1}{6}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{2}{3}$, and 1 whole.)
- S: (Volunteers toss while others observe.)



NOTES ON MULTIPLE MEANS OF REPRESENTATION:

You may want to preteach vocabulary by adding it to a math word wall before the lesson starts. Helping students connect terms such as *more than*, *fewer*, and *the same* to familiar symbols or words used often (greater than, less than, equal to) makes the language more accessible during the lesson.

Guide students to discuss how each toss shows the different distance from 0 that each beanbag traveled. Emphasize the distance from 0 as an important feature of the comparison.

- T: Why is a fraction's distance from 0 important for comparison?
- S: (Discuss.)
- T: How would the comparison change if each volunteer stood at a different place on the number line?
- S: It would be hard to compare because the distances would be different. → The distance the beanbag flew wouldn't tell you how big the fraction is. → It's like measuring. When you use a ruler, you start at 0 to measure. Then you can compare the measurements. → The number line is like a giant ruler.
- T: Suppose we tossed beanbags to containers at the same points from 0 to 1 on a different number line, but the distance from 0 to 1 was different. How would the comparison of the fractions change if the distance from 0 to 1 was shorter? Longer?
- S: If the whole changes, the distance between fractions also changes. → So, if the number line was shorter, then the distance to toss each beanbag would also be shorter. → If the number line was longer, then the distance to toss each beanbag would also be longer. → True, but the position of each fraction within the number lines stays the same. → So, the comparisons would be the same, but the distance between 0 and each fraction would change.

Students return to their seats.

- T: Think back to our Application Problem. What in the Application Problem relates to the length of the toss?
- S: How big the peppers are. → The length of the peppers.
- T: Talk to your partner. How did we use the distance from 0 to show the length of the peppers?
- S: We saw 3 is larger than $\frac{10}{4}$. → We used the number line sort of like a ruler. We put the measurements on it. Then, we saw which one was farthest from the 0. → On the number line, you can see that the length from 0 to 3 is longer than the length from 0 to $\frac{10}{4}$.

- T: Let's do the same thing we did with our big number line on the floor, pretending we measured *giant* peppers with yards instead of inches. 1 pepper measured 3 yards long, and the other measured $\frac{10}{4}$ yards. How would the comparison of the fractions change using yards rather than inches?
- S: Yards are much larger than inches. → But even though the measurement units changed, $\frac{10}{4}$ yards is still less than 3 yards, just like $\frac{10}{4}$ inches is less than 3 inches.



NOTES ON MULTIPLE MEANS OF ENGAGEMENT:

As students compare the giant peppers, a third pepper can be given to them to include in the comparison. If preferred, the length of the pepper can be equal to $\frac{12}{4}$.

Problem Set (10 minutes)

Students should do their personal best to complete the Problem Set within the allotted 10 minutes. For some classes, it may be appropriate to modify the assignment by specifying which problems they work on first. Some problems do not specify a method for solving. Students should solve these problems using the RDW approach used for Application Problems.

Student Debrief (10 minutes)

Lesson Objective: Compare fractions and whole numbers on the number line by reasoning about their distance from 0.

The Student Debrief is intended to invite reflection and active processing of the total lesson experience.

Invite students to review their solutions for the Problem Set. They should check work by comparing answers with a partner before going over answers as a class. Look for misconceptions or misunderstandings that can be addressed in the Student Debrief. Guide students in a conversation to debrief the Problem Set and process the lesson.

Any combination of the questions below may be used to lead the discussion.

- If necessary, review the *toss* portion of the lesson by having students draw each toss on a separate number line and then place the fractions on the same number line to compare.
- Invite students to share their work on Problems 6–8. Ensure that each student can articulate how the distance from 0 helped them figure out which fraction was greater or less.

- Extend the lesson by having students work through the same comparison given at the end of the Concept Development, this time altering the measurements to centimeters and inches.

Exit Ticket (3 minutes)

After the Student Debrief, instruct students to complete the Exit Ticket. A review of their work will help with assessing students’ understanding of the concepts that were presented in today’s lesson and planning more effectively for future lessons. The questions may be read aloud to the students.

Lesson 18 Problem Set 3•5

6. JoAnn and Lupe live straight down the street from their school. JoAnn walks $\frac{5}{6}$ mile and Lupe walks $\frac{7}{8}$ mile home from school every day. Draw a number line to model how far each girl walks. Who walks the least? Explain how you know using pictures, numbers, and words.

JoAnn walks the least. My number lines show that $\frac{5}{6}$ is closer to 0 than $\frac{7}{8}$, so $\frac{5}{6}$ is less than $\frac{7}{8}$.

7. Cheryl cuts 2 pieces of thread. The blue thread is $\frac{4}{5}$ meters long. The red thread is $\frac{5}{4}$ meters long. Draw a number line to model the length of each piece of thread. Which piece of thread is shorter? Explain how you know using pictures, numbers, and words.

The red thread is shorter because $\frac{4}{5}$ is closer to zero on the number line. Also, $\frac{4}{5}$ is less than one whole and $\frac{5}{4}$ is more than one whole.

8. Brandon makes homemade spaghetti. He measures 3 noodles. One measures $\frac{7}{8}$ feet, the second is $\frac{2}{3}$ feet, and the third is $\frac{1}{2}$ feet long. Draw a number line to model the length of each piece of spaghetti. Write a number sentence using <, >, or = to compare the pieces. Explain using pictures, numbers, and words.

$\frac{7}{8} < \frac{2}{3} < \frac{1}{2}$
 $\frac{7}{8}$ is the shortest because it's closest to 0 and $\frac{1}{2}$ is the longest because it's farthest from 0.

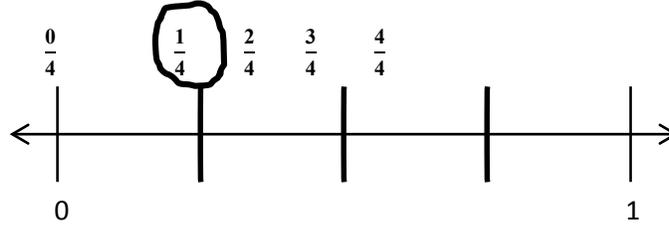
COMMON CORE Lesson 18: Compare fractions and whole numbers on the number line by reasoning about their distance from 0. 7/10/14 engage^{ny} 5.D.51

Name _____

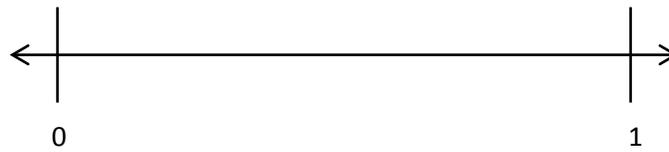
Date _____

Place the two fractions on the number line. Circle the fraction with the distance closest to 0. Then, compare using $>$, $<$, or $=$. The first problem is done for you.

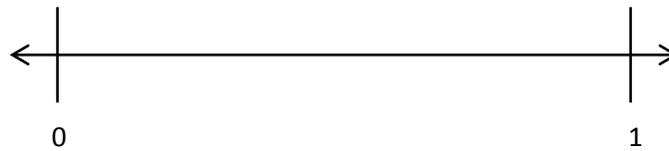
1. $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$



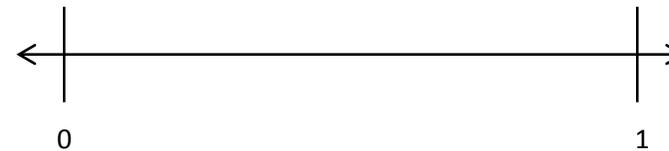
2. $\frac{2}{6}$ $\frac{3}{6}$



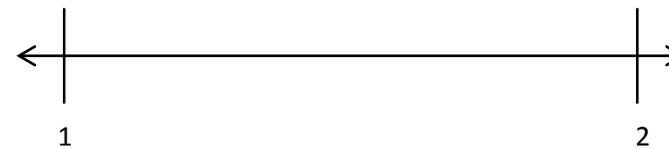
3. $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{4}$



4. $\frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{2}{6}$



5. $\frac{11}{8}$ $\frac{7}{4}$



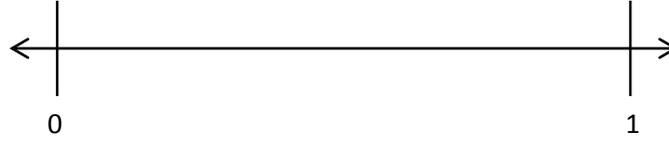
6. JoAnn and Lupe live straight down the street from their school. JoAnn walks $\frac{5}{6}$ miles and Lupe walks $\frac{7}{8}$ miles home from school every day. Draw a number line to model how far each girl walks. Who walks the least? Explain how you know using pictures, numbers, and words.
7. Cheryl cuts 2 pieces of thread. The blue thread is $\frac{5}{4}$ meters long. The red thread is $\frac{4}{5}$ meters long. Draw a number line to model the length of each piece of thread. Which piece of thread is shorter? Explain how you know using pictures, numbers, and words.
8. Brandon makes homemade spaghetti. He measures 3 noodles. One measures $\frac{7}{8}$ feet, the second is $\frac{7}{4}$ feet, and the third is $\frac{4}{2}$ feet long. Draw a number line to model the length of each piece of spaghetti. Write a number sentence using $<$, $>$, or $=$ to compare the pieces. Explain using pictures, numbers, and words.

Name _____

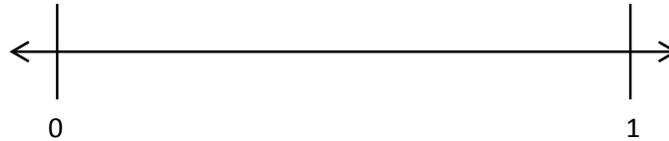
Date _____

Place the two fractions on the number line. Circle the fraction with the distance closest to 0. Then, compare using $>$, $<$, or $=$.

1. $\frac{3}{5}$  $\frac{1}{5}$



2. $\frac{1}{2}$  $\frac{3}{4}$

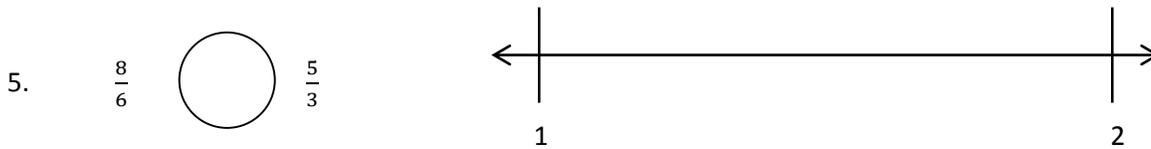
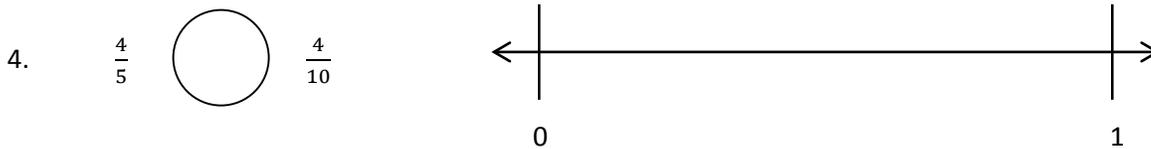
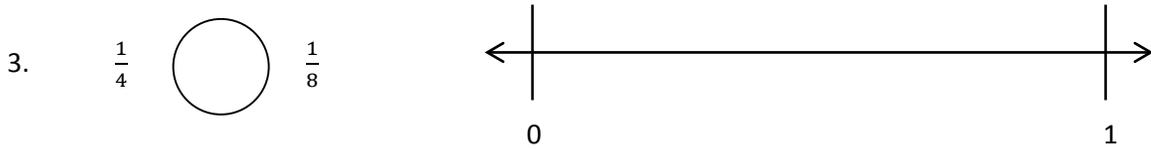
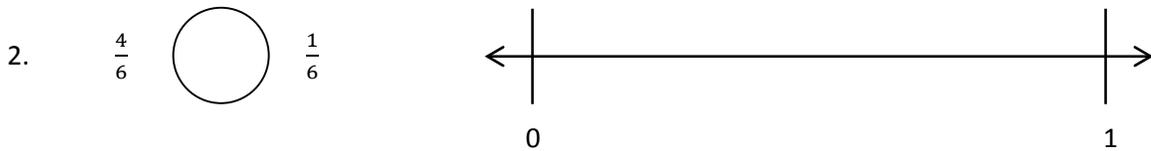
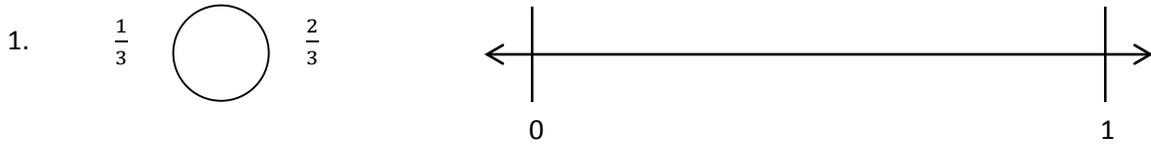


3. Mr. Brady draws a fraction on the board. Ken says it's $\frac{2}{3}$, and Dan said it's $\frac{3}{2}$. Do both of these fractions mean the same thing? If not, which fraction is larger? Draw a number line to model $\frac{2}{3}$ and $\frac{3}{2}$. Use words, pictures, and numbers to explain your comparison.

Name _____

Date _____

Place the two fractions on the number line. Circle the fraction with the distance closest to 0. Then, compare using $>$, $<$, or $=$.



6. Liz and Jay each have a piece of string. Liz's string is $\frac{4}{6}$ yards long, and Jay's string is $\frac{5}{7}$ yards long. Whose string is longer? Draw a number line to model the length of both strings. Explain the comparison using pictures, numbers, and words.
7. In a long jump competition, Wendy jumped $\frac{9}{10}$ meters, and Judy jumped $\frac{10}{9}$ meters. Draw a number line to model the distance of each girl's long jump. Who jumped the shorter distance? Explain how you know using pictures, numbers, and words.
8. Nikki has 3 pieces of yarn. The first piece is $\frac{5}{6}$ feet long, the second piece is $\frac{5}{3}$ feet long, and the third piece is $\frac{3}{2}$ feet long. She wants to arrange them from the shortest to the longest. Draw a number line to model the length of each piece of yarn. Write a number sentence using $<$, $>$, or $=$ to compare the pieces. Explain using pictures, numbers, and words.