Grade 3 Parent Resource Sheet

**Fraction Equivalence & Comparison**

**Equivalent fractions**

* fractions that are equal to each other
* represent the same amount of the whole
* represent the same location on a number line

**How to find equivalent fractions**

* use or draw a model, like fraction bars or number lines
* use reasoning about fraction size



FRACTION BARS

* What fractions are equivalent to $\frac{1}{2}$ ?
* Look for fractions that line up with $\frac{1}{2}$
* Use reasoning and notice that the numerators (top) are all half of the denominators (bottom)

 $\frac{1}{2}$ = $\frac{2}{4}$ = $\frac{3}{6}$ = $\frac{4}{8}$

 \*Grade 3 students focus on fractions with denominators of 2, 3, 4, 6 and 8.

NUMBER LINES

* What fractions are equivalent to $\frac{2}{3}$ ?
* Draw a number line with thirds.
* Use reasoning to partition each third in two parts, making sixths
* Draw another number line that’s the exact same length, marking it in sixths
* Look for fractions that line up with $\frac{2}{3}$ $\frac{2}{3}$ = $\frac{4}{6}$
* Use reasoning and notice that the numerators and denominators both doubled

**Compare fractions**

* Make sure that the “whole” amount is the same for each comparison
* Decide which is greater is which less and use < > symbols

**How to compare fractions**

* use or draw a model, like fraction bars or number lines
* use reasoning about fraction size

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| If the denominators are the same, reason about which is more. $\frac{5}{6}$ > $\frac{3}{6}$ 5 sixths are more than 3 sixths. | If the numerators are the same, reason about the size of the denominators. Fourths are larger pieces than eighths. |

**Special cases:**

1. Fractions for 1

Fractions that are equivalent to 1 mean that all the parts of the whole are shaded.

1. Fractions equivalent to whole numbers

A whole number can be written as a fraction with a denominator (bottom) of 1. The denominator of 1 means that the whole has not been cut into parts.

EX: $\frac{2}{1}$ is read as “two wholes” and is equivalent to 2.

Learnzillion: <https://learnzillion.com/lesson_plans/8304-express-whole-numbers-as-fractions>



You try it: What fractions are shown here?

1. B) C) D) 

Answers A) $\frac{6}{6}$ B) $\frac{3}{1}$ C) $\frac{5}{5}$ D) $\frac{5}{1}$