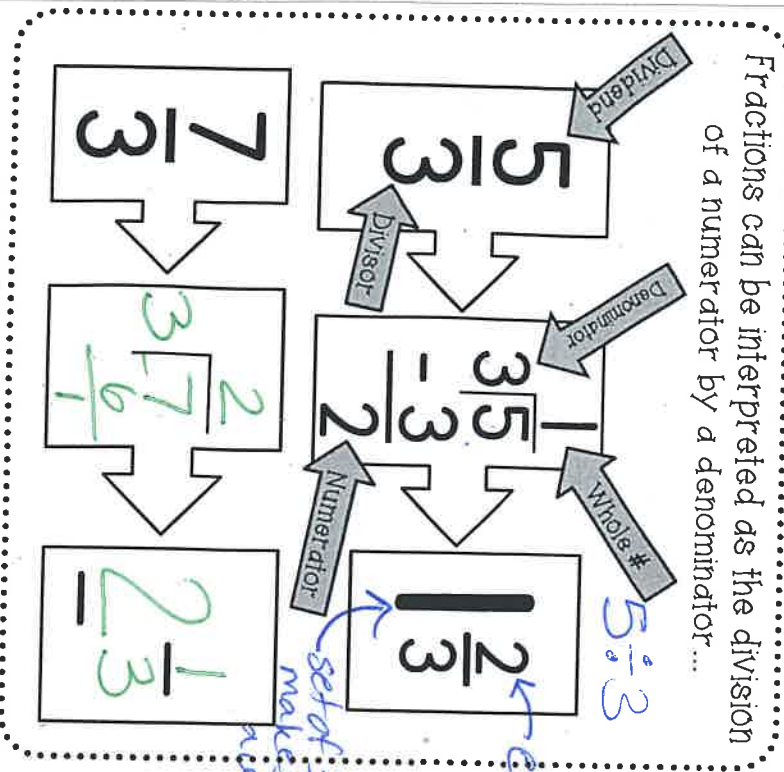


# Equivalents to Reciprocals

Fractions can be interpreted as the division of a numerator by a denominator...



$D = N$

①

$7/3$	$2/7$	$2/3$
$6/5$	$5/6$	$1/5$
$8/3$		

②

$5/27$	$27/5$	
		$1/5$

③


$$4 \frac{2}{5}$$

$$4 \frac{2}{5} = \frac{22}{5}$$

$4 \times 5 + 2$

$$5 \frac{1}{3} = \frac{16}{3}$$

$5 \times 3 + 1$

$16 \leftarrow$  total piece

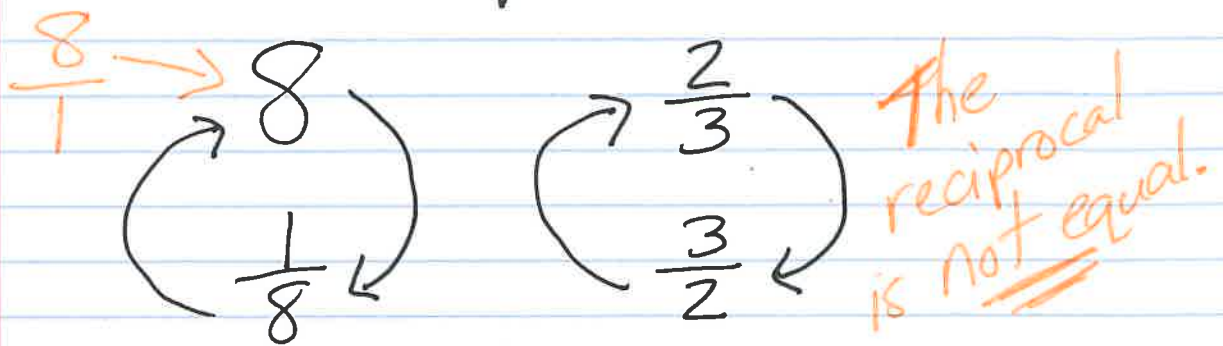
$$3 \frac{8}{9} = \frac{35}{9}$$

$3 \times 9 + 8$

$$1 \frac{2}{9} = \frac{11}{9}$$

$27/5$   
 $5/27$   
 $5/5$

Reciprocal: The reciprocal of a fraction is the fraction turned upside-down.



$\frac{4}{5}$  reciprocal  $\frac{5}{4}$

$\frac{3}{9}$

$\frac{9}{3}$

~~$\frac{2}{5}$   $\frac{5}{3}$~~   
↓  
 $5 \times 2 + 3$

$\frac{11}{5}$

$\frac{5}{11}$

$\frac{13}{5}$

\*  $\frac{5}{13}$

$\frac{7}{10}$

$\frac{10}{7}$

# DIVIDING FRACTIONS

Remember!

Keep	Change	Flip
First fraction stays the same	Operation changes from $\div$ to $\times$	Flip 2 <sup>nd</sup> fraction for reciprocal

**Step 1:** Write whole number as fraction; write mixed number as improper fraction.

**Step 2:** Find the reciprocal of the divisor (the number you are dividing by).

**Step 3:** The reciprocal allows you to change the operation from division to multiplication.

**Step 4:** Multiply the fractions.

**Step 5:** Write the answer in simplest terms.

Fraction divided by a fraction	Whole number divided by a fraction	Fraction divided by a mixed number
$\frac{2}{3} \div \frac{1}{3}$	$9 \div \frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3} \div 2\frac{1}{3}$
↓	↓	↓
$\frac{2}{3} \div \frac{3}{1}$	$\frac{9}{1} \div \frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3} \div \frac{7}{3}$
↓	↓	↓
$\frac{2}{3} \div \frac{3}{1}$	$\frac{9}{1} \div \frac{3}{1}$	$\frac{2}{3} \div \frac{3}{7}$
↓	↓	↓
$\frac{2}{3} \times \frac{3}{1}$	$\frac{9}{1} \times \frac{3}{1}$	$\frac{2}{3} \times \frac{3}{7}$
$\frac{2}{3} \times \frac{3}{1} = \frac{6}{3}$	$\frac{9}{1} \times \frac{3}{1} = \frac{27}{1}$	$\frac{2}{3} \times \frac{3}{7} = \frac{6}{21}$
$\frac{6}{3} = 2$	$\frac{27}{1} = 27$	$\frac{6}{21} = \frac{2}{7}$

# 4.2 Dividing Fractions

## ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How do you divide fractions?

### EXPLORE ACTIVITY 1



6.NS.1

## Modeling Fraction Division

In some division problems, you may know a number of groups and need to find how many or how much are in each group. In other division problems, you may know how many there are in each group, and need to find the number of groups.

- A** You have  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup of salsa for making burritos. Each burrito requires  $\frac{1}{8}$  cup of salsa. How many burritos can you make? *6 burritos*

To find the number of burritos that can be made, you need to determine how many  $\frac{1}{8}$ -cup servings are in  $\frac{3}{4}$  cups. Use the diagram. How many eighths

are there in  $\frac{3}{4}$ ?

You have enough salsa to make \_\_\_\_\_ burritos.

- B** Five people share  $\frac{1}{2}$  pound of cheese equally. How much cheese does each person receive?

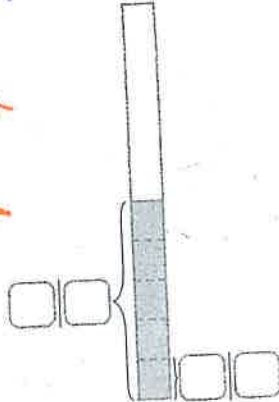
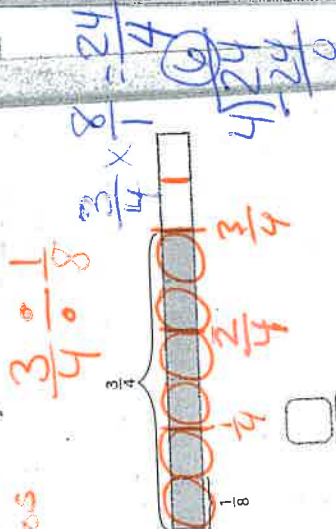
To find how much cheese each person receives, you need to determine how much is in each of \_\_\_\_\_ parts.

How much is in each part? \_\_\_\_\_

Each person will receive \_\_\_\_\_ pound.

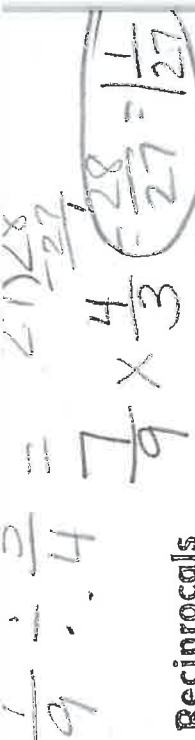
### Reflect

1. Write the division shown by each model.



### COMMON CORE

Interpret and compute quotients of fractions, e.g., by using visual fraction models...



## Reciprocals

Another way to divide fractions is to use reciprocals. Two numbers whose product is 1 are reciprocals.

$\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{4}{3} = \frac{12}{12} = 1$       $\frac{2}{3}$  and  $\frac{3}{2}$  are reciprocals.

To find the reciprocal of a fraction, switch the numerator and denominator.

$\frac{\text{numerator}}{\text{denominator}} \cdot \frac{\text{denominator}}{\text{numerator}} = 1$

### EXAMPLE 1

COMMON CORE Prep for 6.NS.1

Find the reciprocal of each number.

- A**  $\frac{2}{3}$      *Switch the numerator and denominator:*

The reciprocal of  $\frac{2}{3}$  is  $\frac{3}{2}$ .

- B**  $\frac{1}{6}$      *Switch the numerator and denominator:*

The reciprocal of  $\frac{1}{6}$  is  $\frac{6}{1}$ , or 6.

- C** 5

$5 = \frac{5}{1}$      *Rewrite as a fraction.*

- $\frac{5}{1}$      *Switch the numerator and the denominator.*

The reciprocal of 5 is  $\frac{1}{5}$ .

### Reflect

2. Is any number its own reciprocal? If so, what number(s)? Justify your answer.

*No*

3. **Communicate Mathematical Ideas** Does every number have a reciprocal? Explain.

4. The reciprocal of a whole number is a fraction with \_\_\_\_\_ in the numerator.

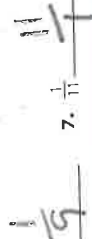
### YOUR TURN

Find the reciprocal of each number.

5.  $\frac{7}{8}$       $\frac{8}{7}$

6. 9

7.  $\frac{1}{11}$



Math On the Spot

my.hrw.com

### Math Talk

Mathematical Practices

How can you check that the reciprocal in **A** is correct?



Personal Math Trainer Online Assessment and Intervention

my.hrw.com

# Dividing Fractions

## Keep, Change, Flip!

1. Keep the first fraction.
2. Change the sign to multiplication.
3. Flip the second fraction into its reciprocal.
4. Multiply the problem through =  $\frac{\text{numerator} \times \text{numerator}}{\text{denominator} \times \text{denominator}}$
5. Simplify. (Use the ladder method if you're stuck!)

Example:  $\frac{2}{8} \div \frac{3}{4}$

1. Keep  $\frac{2}{8}$
2. Change  $\div$  to  $\times$
3. Flip  $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $\frac{4}{3}$
4. Multiply  $\frac{2}{8} \times \frac{4}{3} = \frac{8}{24}$
5. Simplify  $\frac{8}{24} = \frac{1}{3}$

2	8 / 24
2	4 / 12
2	2 / 6
2	1 / 3 → Simplified fraction

# What am I splitting/sharing?

have/has ÷ size = groups

have/has ÷ group = size per

## 4.2 Independent Practice

COMMON CORE 6.NS.1

Starts with

8. Alison has  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of yogurt for making fruit parfaits. Each parfait requires  $\frac{1}{8}$  cup of yogurt. How many parfaits can she make?

4 parfaits

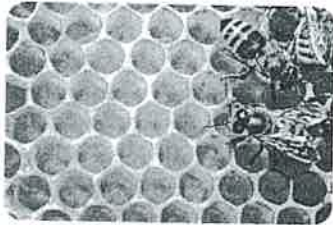
9. A team of runners is needed to run a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile relay race. If each runner must run  $\frac{1}{16}$  mile, how many runners will be needed?

10. Trevor paints  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the fence surrounding his farm each day. How many days will it take him to paint  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the fence?

11. Six people share  $\frac{3}{5}$  pound of peanuts equally. What fraction of a pound of peanuts does each person receive?

$\frac{3}{5} \div 6$

12. Biology If one honeybee makes  $\frac{1}{12}$  teaspoon of honey during its lifetime, how many honeybees are needed to make  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon of honey?



13. Jackson wants to divide a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -pound box of trail mix into small bags. Each of the bags will hold  $\frac{1}{12}$  pound of trail mix. How many bags of trail mix can Jackson fill?

9 bags

14. A pitcher of contains  $\frac{5}{8}$  quart of lemonade. If an equal amount of lemonade is poured into each of 6 glasses, how much lemonade will each glass contain?

$\frac{5}{8} \div 6$

15. How many tenths are there in  $\frac{1}{5}$ ?

16. You make a large bowl of salad to share with your friends. Your brother eats  $\frac{1}{3}$  of it before they come over.

a. You want to divide the leftover salad evenly among six friends. What expression describes the situation? Explain.

b. What fractional portion of the original bowl of salad does each friend receive?

size of each group

groups

Have

size?

have



Personal Math Trainer  
Online Assessment and Intervention  
© my.hrw.com

dividing  
splitting  
distributing  
sharing  
EQUALLY

HAVE groups size?

8

$$\frac{1}{2} \div \frac{1}{8}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{8}{1} = \frac{8}{2} = 4 \text{ parfaits}$$

$$2 \overline{) 8} = 4$$

13

$$\frac{3}{4} \div \frac{1}{12} =$$

$$\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{12}{1} = \frac{36}{4}$$

$$4 \overline{) 36} = 9$$

9 bags

## Dividing w/ Mixed Numbers

$$5\frac{2}{3} \div \frac{2}{3}$$

How many  $\frac{2}{3}$  are in  $5\frac{2}{3}$ ?

$$3 \times 5 + 2$$

$$\frac{17}{3} \div \frac{2}{3} = \frac{17}{3} \times \frac{3}{2} = \frac{51}{6}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ 6 \overline{)51} \\ \underline{48} \\ 3 \end{array}$$

$$8\frac{3}{6} \div 3$$

$$= 8\frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{51}{6} = 8\frac{3}{6} = 8\frac{1}{2}$$

$$3\frac{1}{5} \div \frac{2}{7}$$

$$11 \times 10 = 110$$

$$\frac{16}{5} \div \frac{2}{7}$$

$$\frac{16}{5} \times \frac{7}{2} = \frac{112}{10} = 11\frac{2}{10}$$

$$11\frac{2}{10} = 11\frac{2 \div 2}{10 \div 2} = 11\frac{1}{5}$$

$$6 \div 2\frac{4}{9} = \underline{2\frac{5}{11}}$$

$$8 \div \frac{1}{5} = \underline{40}$$

$$9 \div \frac{1}{2} = \underline{18}$$

$$\frac{1}{8} \div 3 = \underline{\frac{1}{24}}$$

$$3\frac{3}{5} \div 1\frac{1}{5} = \underline{3}$$

$$\textcircled{1} \frac{6}{1} \div \frac{22}{9}$$

$$\frac{6}{1} \times \frac{9}{22} = \frac{54}{22} = 2\frac{10}{22}$$

$$2 \overline{) 10} \ 22$$

$$5 \ 11$$

$$2\frac{5}{11}$$

②

$$\frac{8}{1} \times \frac{5}{1} = \frac{40}{1} = 40$$

$$\textcircled{3} \frac{9}{1} \times \frac{2}{1} = \frac{18}{1} = 18$$

$$\textcircled{4} \frac{1}{8} \times \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{24}$$

$$\textcircled{5} \frac{18}{5} \div \frac{6}{5} = \frac{18}{5} \times \frac{5}{6}$$

$$\frac{90}{30} = 3$$