

# USING RESOURCES EFFECTIVELY TO TEACH



**Compiled by the 'Solihull LA Primary Mathematics Forum' 2019** 

#### Using resources effectively to teach fractions

Through consultation with schools, and question level analysis of 2017 KS2 SAT papers, the primary maths forum identified the need for support with the teaching of fractions. This document offers ideas to teachers demonstrating how to teach fractions through a CPA approach (concrete, pictorial, abstract) progressively from year 1 through to year 6. The fractions domain has been divided into separate key areas which include

- Counting in fractions
- Recognising and identifying fractions
- Comparing and ordering fractions (incl. equivalence)

- Adding and subtracting fractions
- Multiplying and dividing fractions

For each key area, a variety of ideas are presented illustrating how concrete resources/ manipulatives can be used in teaching as well as pictures and images and abstract representations for each concept. Some links between the key areas are made explicit within the document, however teachers are encouraged to look at all areas within their year group (and previous year groups) to gain a wider understanding of progression and the links between concepts.

Some ideas have been inspired by activities found in:

• White Rose Hub materials

Classroom Secrets

Twinkl

• Maths No Problem

Collins Shanghai

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## Using resources effectively to teach.... COUNTING IN FRACTIONS



All of the Year 2 teaching points are applicable to this objective.

 Children need to understand that one tenth can be one whole divided into ten equal parts, but could be multiple wholes divided into ten equal parts.
Children should be able to count forwards and

backwards beyond

one.

Children could use multiple tens frames to support them counting in tenths.



The children could use counters or shading. It is important that they can use the tens frame in different orientations.



To start with, use the tenths cubes to embed the idea that 10 tenths = 1 whole. Children can then exchange their ten tenths for a 1 whole stick. Start at different points to rehearse counting forwards and backwards.



What does each image represent? How many more sections would I need to shade to make  $2\frac{7}{10}$ ?



# -:

Sam started counting at  $2\frac{7}{10}$ . He finished with the picture above. How many tenths has he counted on? Ext: This is Sam's finished image. Where could he have started counting? How many tenths away from this is it?



Here is part of a number square. Fill in the missing numbers.

(N.B. to extend more able learners, you may wish to remove  $3^{9}/_{10}$  or extend the table beyond a whole.)

9.82 is equivalent to ? hundredths. How many hundredths are there in 10.0?
Using a partially filled in hundredths square, ask how you know where e.g.     2.76 would go.     2.5   2.5     2   3     2   3     2   2.6     7     2.8   2.8     2   5     6

## Using resources effectively to teach.... RECOGNISING FRACTIONS





ime a half as one of shape and quantity)	cont. Choose a number of counters. Place them onto 2 plates so that there is the same number on each half. When can you do this and when can't you? What do you notice?	
Year 1: Recognise, find and na two equal parts of an object, s		

Children explore finding a guarter for the first time using shapes, sets of objects and small quantities. They will use the vocabulary 'quarter' and 'whole'. Children will not be expected to use the fractional notation of <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> within their working, but it may be useful to introduce both  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{4}{4}$  as the fractional representation. It is important that they know that a quarter means one of four equal parts.

Link to measurement

Using a number line marked 0 to 1 to introduce the numerical value of a quarter.









Which shape has been split into quarters?



Shade one quarter of each shape



Find a quarter of objects

Represent a quarter on a bar model



Look at an amount as a whole and a quarter as one of four equal parts



Is she right? Explain your answer.

#### True or false?

Sharing 8 apples between 4 children means each child has 1 apple.



less than a exactly a more than quarter quarter a quarter

Colour the shapes to match the labels

Is  $\frac{1}{3}$  of 9 greater than  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 4? Children explore finding a Part whole diagrams to show 3 equal third for the first time using parts 2: Recognise, find, name and write one third  $({}^{1}/{}_{3})$  of length, shape, set of objects or shapes, sets of objects and See similar questions to halves. Strips of paper for children to find 1 out small quantities. They will of 3 equal parts use the vocabulary 'third' and 'whole'. Children will not be expected to use the fractional notation of  $1/_3$ 9cm within their working, but it 3cm 3cm 3cm may be useful to introduce Bar model both  $\frac{1}{3}$  and  $\frac{3}{3}$  as the fractional representation. It is important that they Using counters to show the equal parts. know that a third means one of three equal parts. quantity (Y2) (Y2) Fraction cards Link to measurement Is this  $\frac{1}{3}$  of this shape? Explain how you know. Using a number line marked 0 to 1 to introduce the numerical value of a third. Year



Identify fraction of shaded shape; position fractions on a number line; use fraction cards to show equivalence and compare fractions





Estimate the position of $\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{5}$ and $\frac{7}{10}$		
<b>0 1</b>		
Continue the pattern. What do you notice? What about $^{1}/_{10}$ of 20? Use this to work out $^{2}/_{10}$ of 20, etc.		
True or false? $^{2}/_{10}$ of 20cm = 2cm $^{4}/_{10}$ of 40cm = 4cm $^{3}/_{5}$ of 20cm = 12cm		

Children explore finding a  $\circ$ tenth using money (10p and pounds), sets of objects and small 0 quantities. They will use the vocabulary 'tenth' and 'whole'. Children will use fractional representation for 1/10 etc. Link to money – the relationship between 10p and £1. Using a number line marked 0 to 1 to introduce the numerical value of a tenth. Dividing one-digit numbers by 10 to introduce the decimal notation.



Use tens frames to represent tenths and count in tenths. Could also use a ten piece from numicon set with an object into the circles to represent the amount of tenths.

Using 10p coins with 10 adding up to £1 also links to the decimal place.



How many tenths of a whole pound do you have? 3/10 link to how it would be written as money £0.30.





<u>6</u> 10

 $^{1}/_{10}$  of 10 = 1  $^{2}/_{10}$  of 10 = 2  $^{3}/_{10}$  of 10 = 3 Continue the pattern. What do you notice? What about  $^{1}/_{10}$  of 20? Use this to work out  $^{2}/_{10}$  of 20, etc.  $^{1}/_{10}$  of 100 = 10  $^{1}/_{100}$  of 100 = 1  $^{2}/_{10}$  of 100 = 20  $^{2}/_{100}$  of 100 = 2 How can you use this to work out  $\frac{6}{10}$  of 200? <sup>6</sup>/<sub>100</sub> of 200?

What do you notice?

Children explore finding any number of tenths or hundredths using money -10p and 1p to pounds and write as the decimal 0.60 sixty hundredths 0.6 six tenths equivalent.



What do you notice? One tenth of £41 One hundredth of £41 One thousandth of £41 Continue the pattern. What do you notice? 0.085 + 0.015 = 0.1 0.075 + 0.025 = 0.1 0.065 + 0.035 = 0.1Continue the pattern for the next five number sentences



Children to use place value counters to represent tenths and hundredths and relate these to decimals. Relate the teaching of thousandths to grams and ml in practical contexts.



Use place value counters and grid to represent decimal numbers up to three decimal points and convert to fractions



Using base ten to physically represent decimal numbers.





Using a tens frame, 100 square, or thousands grid to represent tenths, hundredths and thousandths



Explain

One tenth of £41 One hundredth of £41 One thousandth of £41 Continue the pattern What do you notice?

0.085 + 0.015 = 0.1 0.075 + 0.025 = 0.1 0.065 + 0.035 = 0.1 Continue the pattern for the next five number sentences.

One thousandth of my money is 31p. How much do I have?

True or false? 0.1 of a kilometre is 1m. 0.2 of 2 kilometres is 2m. 0.3 of 3 kilometres is 3m 0.25 of 3m is 500cm.  $^{2}/_{5}$  of £2 is 20p

True or false?

25% of 23km is longer than 0.2 of 20km.

Convince me.

# Using resources effectively to teach... COMPARING FRACTIONS



Obj	Teaching points	Concrete	Pictorial	Abstract
Year 3: compare and order unit fractions, and fractions with the same denominators	Unit fractions are fractions with a numerator that is 1. Language to be used is: compare order greater than and less than equal parts numerator denominator	Equipment that could be used: Paper strips; Counters; Cubes; Fraction tiles; Fraction rods; Cuisenaire rods E.g. Compare fractions using counters and other objects as shown below Paper strips can be used to help compare fractions. Ensure that the paper strips are of equal size.	This could begin by using paper strips before exposing children to pictorial representations such as: Image: Image: I	For example: Compare using =, < or > $\frac{1}{2}$ , $\frac{1}{5}$ , $\frac{1}{3}$ , $\frac{3}{4}$ Compare using =, < or > $\frac{2}{7}$ , $\frac{5}{7}$ , $\frac{4}{8}$ , $\frac{5}{8}$ 1 2 3 4 4 $\frac{1}{4} < \frac{B}{C}$ Order the following fractions from smallest to largest:



![](_page_18_Figure_0.jpeg)

# Using resources effectively to teach.... + AND - FRACTIONS

Obj	<b>Teaching points</b>	Concrete	Pictorial	Abstract
Year 3: Add and subtract fractions with the same denominator within one whole	To add and subtract fractions, the denominators must be the same.	Provide pupils with a strawberry tart cut into eighths and an identically sized and cut blank copy. Collins Shanghai Y3 Unit 8.4 Determine that each part represents one eighth of the tart because the whole has been divided into eight equal parts. Get the children to cut out each part of the pie and label them as $\frac{1}{8}$ . Hold up one piece in each hand and elicit that this is $\frac{2}{8}$ . Record the calculation: $\frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{2}{8}$ . Relate the common denominators to the number of equal pieces of the tart, and then discuss how by adding two of them together they get $\frac{2}{8}$ . Ask what would happen if one more eighth was added to the new strawberry tart. Stick another eighth on to get $\frac{3}{8}$ . Continue this process. Put the final piece on and remind the children that $\frac{8}{8}$ is the same as one whole (strawberry tart).	Count up and down in fraction amounts on a number line.	Make sure the numerators are the same, then add the denominators. e.g. $\frac{3}{8} + \frac{2}{8} = \frac{5}{8}$
		Cont	Cont	

![](_page_19_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Figure_0.jpeg)

	The solution of the lateral sector			
a	To add and subtract	$\frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{2} + \frac{2}{2} =$	$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} =$	
· is	fractions, the	8 4 8 8	3 12	
to	denominators must be		Step 1 Step 2 Step 3	$\frac{2}{7} - \frac{1}{10} = \frac{4}{10} - \frac{1}{10} = \frac{3}{10}$
na	the same.	Provide a second se	$\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{4}{12}$ $\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{12} = \frac{3}{12}$	5 10 10 10 10
m	Is there an easy way to			
ou	find an equivalent			
de	fraction for just one			
one	fraction that makes the			
e o	denominator the same?			
on	denominator the same:			
s wł Ilati	Refer to appendix for	And a second		
ors Ilcu	methods 1 and 2 for		1 + 5 =	
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min the	fractions		Step1 Step2	
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de ith			$1$ $1$ $\frac{1}{6}$ $\frac{1}{6}$	
r v			$\frac{3}{3}$ $\frac{1}{6}$ $\frac{1}{6}$	
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ns v of i		Using paper strips, create fractions where one		
tion		denominator is a multiple of the other and		
act Itip		demonstrate how to convert one denominator into		
t fr nul		the other by colitting the fraction, so the		
n		denominators are avail		
btı		denominators are equal.		
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	To add and subtract	Once they have combined their previous knowledge of		
	fractions, the	+/- fractions with their knowledge of equivalent		
	denominators must be	fractions, the process is as above.		
	the same.			$\frac{3}{1} + \frac{2}{1} = \frac{15}{10} + \frac{8}{10} = \frac{23}{10} \text{ or } 1\frac{3}{10}$
S	Find common multiples			4 5 20 20 20 20
Itol	of the denominators.		1 1 4 1 5	
ina			$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{8}$	
mo	Refer to appendix for			3 2 15 8 23 or
len	methods 1 and 2 for			$\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{5}$ $\frac{1}{20}$ $\frac{1}{20}$ $\frac{1}{20}$ $\frac{1}{20}$ $\frac{1}{20}$ $\frac{1}{20}$ $\frac{1}{20}$
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![](_page_24_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Figure_0.jpeg)

## Using resources effectively to teach.... X AND ÷ FRACTIONS

![](_page_26_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Figure_0.jpeg)

## Appendix 1

## Adding and subtracting fractions

#### Method 1

Method 1 keeps the whole numbers and fraction parts separate largely, which is often conceptually easier for children. However, the exchange of one whole for an equivalent fraction when bridging is required in subtraction can prove difficult.

#### Adding Fractions Method 1

- 1. Add whole number parts.
- 2. Make sure the denominators are the same if they are not already.
- 3. Add the numerators.
- 4. Simplify if possible.
- 5. Add up the whole number part and the fraction part if we need to.

#### Example 1: 2/5 + 4/5

- 1. No whole numbers to include.
- 2. Denominators are already the same.
- 3. Add the numerators.  $\frac{2}{5} + \frac{4}{5} = \frac{6}{5}$ .
- 4. 6/5 simplifies to 1 1/5.
- 5. No whole number parts to add up, so **1 1/5** is our answer.

#### Example 2: 9 2/3 + 6 4/5

- 1. Add up the whole numbers: 9 + 6 = 15 (keep that for later).
- 2. Make the denominators the same. Thirds and fifths can both be converted to fifteenths. 2/3 = 10/15 (multiplying numerator and denominator by 5 to keep the fraction equivalent). 4/5 = 12/15 (multiplying numerator and denominator by 3 to keep the fraction equivalent).
- 3. Add the numerators. 10/15 + 12/15 = 22/15
- 4. There are 15/15 in one whole, so we can simplify this to 17/15.

5. Add the two parts together: 15 + 1 7/15 = 16 7/15

#### Example 3: 3 3/4 + 7/5

- 1. 7/5 is an improper fraction; we convert it to  $1 \frac{2}{5}$ . Add up the whole numbers: 3 + 1 = 4 (keep that for later).
- 2. Make the denominators the same. Quarters and fifths can both be converted to twentieths. 3/4 = 15/20 (multiplying numerator and denominator by 5 to keep the fraction equivalent). 2/5 = 8/20 (multiplying numerator and denominator by 4 to keep the fraction equivalent).
- 3. Add the numerators. 15/20 + 8/20 = 23/20
- 4. There are 20/20 in one whole, so we can simplify this to 1 3/20.
- 5. Add the two parts together: 4 + 1 3/20 = 5 3/20

#### **Subtracting Fractions Method 1a**

- 1. Subtract whole number parts.
- 2. Make sure the denominators are the same if they are not already.
- 3. If the left-side fraction part is smaller than the right-side fraction part, we need to exchange one whole from our whole number part to make the right-side fraction part big enough.
- 4. Subtract the numerators.
- 5. Simplify if possible.
- 6. Add up the whole number part and the fraction part if we need to.

#### Example 1: 7/8 - 1/4

- 1. No whole number parts to subtract.
- 2. Make the denominators the same. Quarters can be converted to eighths. 1/4 = 2/8 (multiplying numerator and denominator by 2 to keep the fraction equivalent). We now have 7/8 2/8.
- 3. The left-side fraction is big enough.
- 4. Subtract the numerators. 7/8 2/8 = 5/8.
- 5. 5/8 does not simplify.
- 6. There is no whole number part here. Our answer is **5/8**.

#### Example 2: 11 3/4 - 7 5/6

- 1. Subtract whole number parts. 11 7 = 4 (keep that for later).
- Make the denominators the same. Quarters and sixths can be converted to twelfths. 3/4 = 9/12 (multiplying numerator and denominator by 3 to keep the fraction equivalent). 5/6 = 10/12 (multiplying numerator and denominator by 2 to keep the fraction equivalent). We now have 9/12 10/12.
- 3. The left-side fraction is smaller than the right-side fraction, so we need to make it bigger. We do this by exchanging one from our whole number part for 12/12. Our whole number part is now 3. By adding 12/12 to 9/12, our fraction calculation is now 21/12 10/12.
- 4. Subtract the numerators.  $\frac{21}{12} \frac{10}{12} = \frac{11}{12}$ .
- 5. 11/12 does not simplify.
- 6. Add together the whole number and fraction parts. 3 + 11/12 = 3 11/12.

#### **Subtracting Fractions Method 1b**

- 1. Make sure the denominators are the same if they are not already.
- 2. If the left-side fraction part is smaller than the right-side fraction part, we need to exchange one whole from our whole number part to make the right-side fraction part big enough.
- 3. Subtract whole number parts.
- 4. Subtract the numerators.
- 5. Simplify if possible.
- 6. Add up the whole number part and the fraction part if we need to.

#### Example 1: 7/8 - 1/4

- 1. Make the denominators the same. Quarters can be converted to eighths. 1/4 = 2/8 (multiplying numerator and denominator by 2 to keep the fraction equivalent). We now have 7/8 2/8.
- 2. The left-side fraction is big enough.
- 3. There are no whole number parts to subtract.
- 4. Subtract the numerators. 7/8 2/8 = 5/8.
- 5. 5/8 does not simplify.
- 6. There is no whole number part here. Our answer is **5/8**.

#### Example 2: 11 3/4 - 7 5/6

- Make the denominators the same. Quarters and sixths can be converted to twelfths. 3/4 = 9/12 (multiplying numerator and denominator by 3 to keep the fraction equivalent). 5/6 = 10/12 (multiplying numerator and denominator by 2 to keep the fraction equivalent). We now have 9/12 10/12.
- The left-side fraction is smaller than the right-side fraction, so we need to make it bigger. We do this by exchanging one from our whole number part for 12/12. Our whole number part on the left is 11, so that now becomes 10. By adding 12/12 to 9/12, our fraction calculation is now 21/12 10/12.
- 3. This makes our new calculation  $10 \frac{21}{12} 7 \frac{10}{12}$ . Subtract whole number parts. 10 7 = 3.
- 4. Subtract the numerators.  $\frac{21}{12} \frac{10}{12} = \frac{11}{12}$ .
- 5. 11/12 does not simplify.
- 6. Add together the whole number and fraction parts. 3 + 11/12 = 3 11/12.

### Method 2

Method 2 converts mixed numbers to improper fractions. This simplifies trickier calculations involving bridging. However, arithmetic errors are more likely to occur using this method, and this risk grows in proportion with the value of the numbers involved.

#### **Adding Fractions Method 2**

- 1. Make sure the denominators are the same if they are not already.
- 2. If they are mixed numbers, convert them to improper fractions.
- 3. Add the numerators.
- 4. Convert any improper fractions back to mixed numbers if required.
- 5. Simplify if possible.

#### Example 1: 2/5 + 4/5

- 1. Denominators are already the same.
- 2. Proper fractions with no whole numbers, so no need to convert.
- 3. Add the numerators. 2/5 + 4/5 = 6/5.
- 4. 6/5 converts to 1 1/5.
- 5. Nothing to simplify. Answer is **1 1/15**.

#### Example 2: 9 2/3 + 6 4/5

- 1. Make the denominators the same. Thirds and fifths can both be converted to fifteenths. 2/3 = 10/15 (multiplying numerator and denominator by 5 to keep the fraction equivalent). 4/5 = 12/15 (multiplying numerator and denominator by 3 to keep the fraction equivalent).
- 2. They are mixed numbers. Convert 9 10/15 to 145/15 and 6 12/15 to 102/15.
- 3. Add the numerators. 145/15 + 102/15 = 247/15.
- 4. 247/15 converts to 16 7/15.
- 5. Nothing to simplify. Answer is **16 7/15**.

### **Subtracting Fractions Method 2**

- 1. Make sure the denominators are the same if they are not already.
- 2. If they are mixed numbers, convert them to improper fractions.
- 3. Do left numerators subtract right numerator.
- 4. Convert any improper fractions back to mixed numbers if required.
- 5. Simplify if possible.

#### Example 1: 7/8 - 1/4

- 1. Make the denominators the same. Quarters can be turned into eighths. 1/4 = 2/8 (multiplying numerator and denominator by 2 to keep the fraction equivalent).
- 2. Proper fractions with no whole numbers, so no need to convert.
- 3. Subtract the numerators. 7/8 2/8 = 5/8.
- 4. 5/8 is a proper fraction, so nothing to convert.
- 5. Nothing to simplify. Answer is 5/8.

#### Example 2: 11 3/4 - 7 5/6

- 1. Make the denominators the same. Quarters and sixths can both be converted to twelfths. 3/4 = 9/12 (multiplying numerator and denominator by 3 to keep the fraction equivalent). 5/6 = 10/12 (multiplying numerator and denominator by 2 to keep the fraction equivalent).
- 2. They are mixed numbers. Convert 11 9/12 to 141/12 and 7 10/12 to 94/12.
- 3. Subtract the numerators. 141/12 94/12= 147/12.
- 4. 147/12 converts to 12 3/12.
- 5. 3/12 simplifies to 1/4 (dividing numerator and denominator by 3 to keep the fraction equivalent). Answer is 12 1/4.