

Finding the Lowest Common Denominator

Vocabulary Review

- *Common means shared by both or many. For example, we have a school in common, Happy Hollow School, because we all go there every day.*
- *The denominator is the number below the fraction bar.*
- *Lowest means least value.*

Let's start by considering the fractions:

A. $\frac{8}{12}$	B. $\frac{7}{9}$
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What do we know about those fractions?

Question/Fraction	$\frac{8}{12}$	$\frac{7}{9}$
Is the fraction less than half? (how do you know?)		
Is the fraction more than half?		
Is it a proper fraction (less than 1)? (how do you know?)		
Is the fraction improper (greater or equal to 1)?		
Just by looking at fractions which one do you think is greater?		
Draw a fraction bar model for each fraction.		

Place each fraction on the number line below:

0 _____ 1 _____ 2

Change the fractions to fractions with **common denominators**.

A. $\frac{8}{12}$	B. $\frac{7}{9}$
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Multiply the denominator of fraction A and fraction B, what is the product _____.

List the multiples of denominator A up to (AxB): _____

List the multiples of denominator B up to (AxB): _____

Circle the multiples the two denominators have in common. Put a star next to the lowest common multiple (LCM)
Convert fraction A and fraction B to fractions with the **lowest common multiple (LCM) as the denominator**.

Complete the Chart:

List Fraction A and B with Common Denominators	
Use the greater than, less than, or equal sign to compare the two fractions.	
Write an equation to find the sum of the two fractions.	
Write an equation to find the difference between the two fractions.	

Place the fractions correctly on the number line:

0 _____ 1 _____ 2

Practice the skill, by completing the following pages with a partner and/or with a teacher's help.

Let's start by considering the fractions:

A. $\frac{7}{8}$	B. $\frac{3}{6}$
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What do we know about those fractions?

Question/Fraction	$\frac{7}{8}$	$\frac{3}{6}$
Is the fraction less than half? (how do you know?)		
Is the fraction more than half?		
Is it a proper fraction (less than 1)? (how do you know?)		
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Use the greater than, less than, or equal sign to compare the two fractions.	
Write an equation to find the sum of the two fractions.	
Write an equation to find the difference between the two fractions.	

Place the fractions correctly on the number line:

0 _____ 1 _____ 2

Let's start by considering the fractions:

A. $\frac{2}{5}$	B. $\frac{3}{7}$
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What do we know about those fractions?

Question/Fraction	$\frac{2}{5}$	$\frac{3}{7}$
Is the fraction less than half? (how do you know?)		
Is the fraction more than half?		
Is it a proper fraction (less than 1)? (how do you know?)		
Is the fraction improper (greater or equal to 1)?		
Just by looking at fractions which one do you think is greater?		
Draw a fraction bar model for each fraction.		

Place each fraction on the number line below:

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Change the fractions to fractions with **common denominators**.

A. $\frac{2}{5}$	B. $\frac{3}{7}$
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Write an equation to find the sum of the two fractions.	
Write an equation to find the difference between the two fractions.	

Place the fractions correctly on the number line:

