

Vocabulary: Equivalent Fractions



Vocabulary

- **Denominator** – the bottom number in a fraction.
 - The denominator represents the number of equal parts the whole has been divided into.
 - For example, in the fraction $\frac{3}{5}$, the denominator shows that the whole has been divided into 5 equal parts.
- **Equivalent** – equal in value.
 - Equivalent fractions are fractions that have different numerators and denominators but which represent the same amount.
 - For example, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{2}{4}$ are equivalent because they are both equal to 0.5 and lie at the same point on a number line.
- **Fraction** – a number that shows the relationship between a part and a whole.
- **Numerator** – the top number in a fraction.
 - The numerator counts the number of equal parts indicated by the fraction.
 - For example, in the fraction $\frac{3}{5}$, the numerator shows that the fraction refers to 3 of the 5 equal parts that make up the whole.
- **Simplify** – to reduce in complexity.
 - A simplified fraction is equivalent to the original fraction but has a smaller numerator and denominator.
 - For example, $\frac{6}{12}$ can be simplified to $\frac{1}{2}$ by dividing the numerator and denominator by 6.
- **Unit fraction** – a fraction with a numerator of 1.
 - For example, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{8}$, and $\frac{1}{74}$ are all unit fractions.
- **Whole** – an entire object.
 - In a fraction, a whole is divided into equal pieces.
 - Fractions such as $\frac{1}{1}$, $\frac{3}{3}$, and $\frac{26}{26}$ are all equal to 1, so they represent one whole.