Vocabulary: Multiplying Fractions

dictionary2

**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 , the denominator shows that the whole has been divided into 5 equal parts.
* Fraction – a number that shows the relationship between a part and a whole.
  + A fraction consists of a *denominator* (bottom number) and a *numerator* (top number).
  + An *improper fraction* has a numerator that is greater than or equal to its denominator.
* Numerator – the top number in a fraction.
  + The numerator counts the number of equal parts indicated by the fraction.
  + For example, in the fraction , the numerator shows that the fraction refers to 3 of the 5 equal parts that make up the whole.
* Product – the result of multiplication.
  + For example, the product of  and  is , because  •  = .
* Simplify – to reduce in complexity.
  + A simplified fraction is equivalent (equal) to the original fraction but has all common factors divided out of the numerator and denominator.
  + For example,  can be simplified to  by dividing the numerator and denominator by 6.
  + A fraction is in *simplest form* when the numerator and denominator can only be divided by 1. For example,  and  are in simplest form.