Vocabulary: Multiplying 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.
- 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 $\frac{3}{5}$, 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 $\frac{2}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{5}$ is $\frac{2}{15}$, because $\frac{2}{3} \bullet \frac{1}{5} = \frac{2}{15}$.
- 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, $\frac{6}{12}$ can be simplified to $\frac{1}{2}$ 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, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{4}{7}$ are in simplest form.