

Compare Fractions Using Benchmarks

A **benchmark** is a known size or amount that helps you understand a different size or amount. You can use $\frac{1}{2}$ as a benchmark.

Sara reads for $\frac{3}{6}$ hour every day after school. Connor reads for $\frac{2}{3}$ hour. Who reads for a longer amount of time?

Compare the fractions. $\frac{3}{6}$  $\frac{2}{3}$

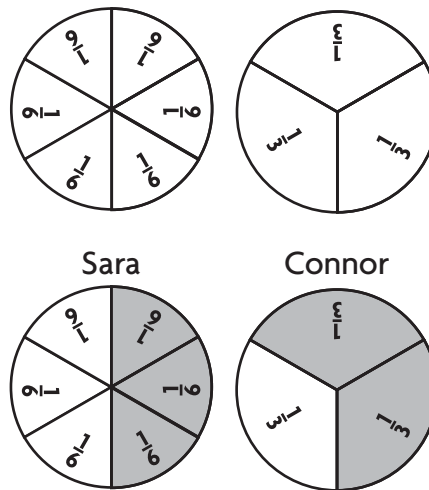
Step 1 Divide one circle into 6 equal parts. Divide another circle into 3 equal parts.

Step 2 Shade $\frac{3}{6}$ of the first circle. How many parts will you shade? **3 parts**

Step 3 Shade $\frac{2}{3}$ of the second circle.

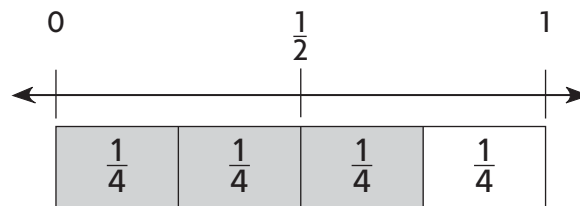
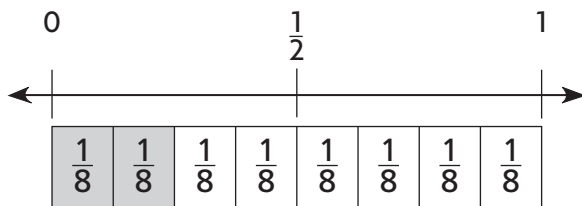
How many parts will you shade? **2 parts**

Step 4 Compare the shaded parts of each circle. Half of Sara's circle is shaded. More than half of Connor's circle is shaded.



$\frac{3}{6}$ is less than $\frac{2}{3}$. Since $\frac{3}{6} < \frac{2}{3}$, **Connor** reads for a longer amount of time.

1 Compare $\frac{2}{8}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$. Write $<$ or $>$.




Compare. Write $<$ or $>$.


$$\frac{2}{8} < \frac{3}{4}$$


2 $\frac{1}{4}$  $\frac{8}{10}$

3 $\frac{7}{8}$  $\frac{1}{3}$

4 $\frac{5}{12}$  $\frac{1}{2}$

5 $\frac{2}{8}$  $\frac{8}{12}$

6 $\frac{4}{6}$  $\frac{4}{8}$

7 $\frac{7}{12}$  $\frac{2}{4}$