WHAT IS A FRACTION?

A fraction is a measure of how something is divided up or shared out. Fractions are written down as one number above another number. These 2 numbers are called the numerator and the denominator.

NUMERATOR ⇐ Tells you how many parts you are dealing with

DENOMINATOR ⇐ Tells you how many (equal sized) parts the number has been divided into

$$\frac{1}{3}$$ ⇐ The number has been divided into 3 parts

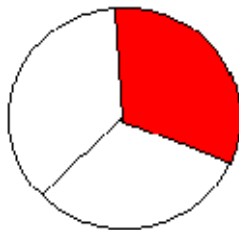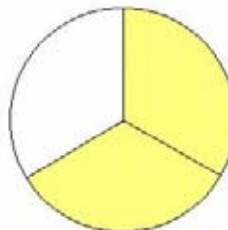$$\frac{1}{3}$$ ⇐ You are dealing with 1 of those parts

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Examples
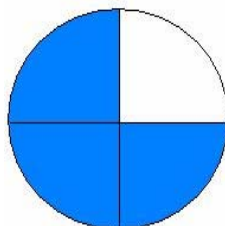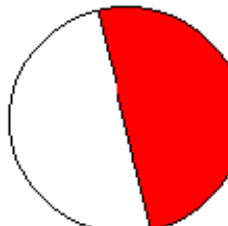
$\frac{1}{3}$

$\frac{2}{3}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{1}{2}$

M&Ms FRACTIONS -1

You have been given a packet of M&Ms.
Do not eat them!

Follow the steps below and answer the questions to discover what kind of fractions you can make.

Step 1: How many M&Ms do you have in total? This number is the DENOMINATOR (or whole).

Step 2: Group the sweets by colour to work out the fraction of each colour in the bag. This number is the NUMERATOR (or part).

For example: 25 M&Ms in the bag, 6 M&Ms are red.

So the fraction of red M&Ms is 6 ← **NUMERATOR**
                                                    25 ← **DENOMINATOR**

Colour	Numerator How many of Each	Denominator How Many M&M's in Total	Fraction Created
*Pink	6	25	$\frac{6}{25}$
Blue			
Red			
Yellow			
Green			
Brown			
Orange			

* Example only, delete as needed. Extra colours listed in table to allow for other brands of sweets.

This resource kindly contributed by **Jan Robinson, Chelmer Training** janrobinson@chelmer-training.co.uk
N2/L2.3 Evaluate one number as a fraction of another. Know how to reduce a fraction to its simplest form. N2/L2.4 Use fractions to add and subtract amounts or quantities.

M&Ms FRACTIONS - 2

ADDING FRACTIONS

**RULE: TO ADD FRACTIONS THE DENOMINATORS MUST BE EQUAL!**

As the fractions you created on your chart each have the same denominator, the denominator remains the same and you simply add the numerators together.

For example: $\dfrac{6}{25} + \dfrac{7}{25} = \dfrac{13}{25}$

What you need to do:

Look back at the fractions you created on your M&M chart and add the following fractions together.

1. Blue + Red

2. Yellow + Green

3. Brown + Orange

4. Blue + Green

5. Yellow + Orange

6. Brown + Red
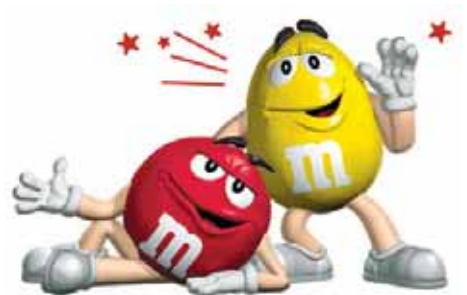
Fraction Problems

Use your knowledge of adding fractions to answer these problems.

$\dfrac{1}{6} + \dfrac{3}{8} =$	$\dfrac{1}{2} + \dfrac{2}{3} =$	$\dfrac{6}{7} + \dfrac{2}{5} =$

Now try these

A garden has an area of $\dfrac{1}{5}$ an acre. The owner buys an extra $\dfrac{1}{3}$ of an acre to increase the size of his land.

What is the new size of the garden?

A large company makes a profit of £ $\dfrac{3}{4}$ million in one year and £ $\dfrac{2}{3}$ million in the next year.

What is the total profit for the 2-year period?