

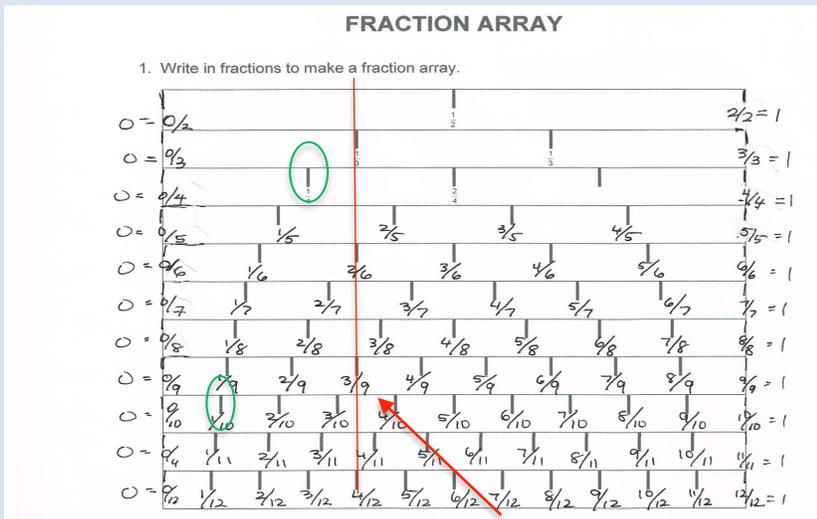
## Packet 3: Fraction Concepts

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Packet 3 reviews elementary fraction concepts in a more mature way in preparation for ratios and proportional reasoning in upcoming packets. Students will use fraction strips and sense-making strategies to compare and order fractions. They will review fraction concepts such as representing fractions greater than 1 as mixed numbers and improper fractions.

### Fraction Strips

In lesson 3.1 students will make fraction strips for several fractions such as halves, thirds, fourths, etc. The fraction array below is a visual tool created when fraction strips are combined in order, one under the next.



Students could use this array to discover **equivalent fractions** (in this case, fractions that are the same distance from 0 on the number lines).

$\frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\frac{2}{6}$ ,  $\frac{3}{9}$ , and  $\frac{4}{12}$  are all equivalent fractions.

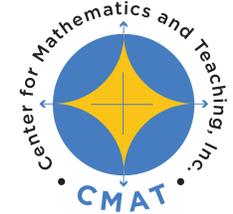
They could **compare fractions** and order fractions on a number line. For example,  $\frac{1}{4} > \frac{1}{10}$ , since  $\frac{1}{4}$  is further to the right on the number line than  $\frac{1}{10}$ .

Encourage your student to use the fraction array when comparing fractions if s/he struggles with lessons 3.1 and 3.2.

### Compare and Order Fractions

We propose five sense-making strategies for comparing and ordering fractions.

Unit Fractions	Common Numerators	Common Denominators	Close to 1	Benchmark Fractions
A unit fraction is a fraction with a numerator of 1.	Same number of pieces, but the size of the pieces is different.	Same size of pieces, but the number of pieces is different.	A greater proper fraction has a smaller fractional part "missing."	Considered one that is common or easily recognized.
$\frac{1}{100} < \frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{5}{8} < \frac{5}{6}$	$\frac{2}{5} < \frac{4}{5}$	$\frac{1}{2} < \frac{99}{100}$	$\frac{1}{2} < \frac{5}{8}$



**Mathlinks 6**

**By the end of the packet, your student should know...**

How to use a fraction array to explore equivalence [Lesson 3.1](#)

How to compare and order fractions using a fraction array and sense-making strategies [Lessons 3.1 and 3.2](#)

How to convert mixed numbers to improper fractions and vice versa [Lesson 3.3](#)

### Additional Resources

Resource Guide (RG)  
Part 1, pages 30-36