

Using Equivalent Fractions to Find Common Denominators

- 1 Fill in the table by using the information given to help you find equivalent fractions.

Fraction	Multiply Both the Numerator and Denominator by:	Number Sentence	Equivalent Fraction
$\frac{1}{2}$	2	$\frac{(1 * 2)}{(2 * 2)} = \frac{2}{4}$	$\frac{2}{4}$
	3		
	5		
$\frac{2}{5}$	2		
	3		
	5		

What do you notice about the fractions in the gray shaded boxes? _____

- 2 Use the table above to help you solve the following problems.

a. $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{5} =$ _____

b. $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{5} =$ _____

c. Fill in the blank with <, >, or =.

$\frac{1}{2}$ _____ $\frac{2}{5}$

- 3 Fill in the table by using the information given to help you find equivalent fractions.

	Multiply Both the Numerator and Denominator by:				
Fraction	2	3	4	5	6
$\frac{2}{3}$		$\frac{6}{9}$		$\frac{10}{15}$	
$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{2}{12}$		$\frac{4}{24}$		
$\frac{1}{3}$		$\frac{3}{9}$		$\frac{5}{15}$	

Solving Problems Using Common Denominators

Lesson 5-1

DATE _____

TIME _____



- 1 Solve. Use the tables on journal page 154 to find equivalent fractions with a common denominator. Write a number sentence showing the fractions you used.

a. $\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{6} = ?$

Common denominator: _____

_____ (number sentence)

b. $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{2} = ?$

Common denominator: _____

_____ (number sentence)

- 2 List four equivalent fractions for each fraction given.

a. $\frac{1}{4} =$ _____, _____, _____, _____

b. $\frac{1}{5} =$ _____, _____, _____, _____

- 3 Make an estimate. Then solve by finding fractions with a common denominator. Use the tables and lists of equivalent fractions above and on journal page 154 to help you. Write a number sentence with a common denominator to summarize each problem.

a. $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4} = ?$

Estimate: _____

Common denominator: _____

_____ (number sentence)

$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4} =$ _____

b. $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} = ?$

Estimate: _____

Common denominator: _____

_____ (number sentence)

$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} =$ _____

c. $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{3} = ?$

Estimate: _____

Common denominator: _____

_____ (number sentence)

$\frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{3} =$ _____

d. $\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{6} = ?$

Estimate: _____

Common denominator: _____

_____ (number sentence)

$\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{6} =$ _____

- 4 Rewrite the fractions as equivalent fractions with a common denominator. Fill in the blank with $>$, $<$, or $=$ to make a true number sentence.

a. $\frac{1}{2}$ _____ $\frac{2}{5}$ Fractions with a common denominator: _____, _____

b. $\frac{1}{3}$ _____ $\frac{2}{6}$ Fractions with a common denominator: _____, _____