



Ordering Fractions

Purpose

You can help your child to order fractions.

What you need:

Fraction bar and fraction cards. You can print these or make your own.

What to do:

Cut out the fraction bar and the fraction cards. Spread them face up on a table.

Ask your child to find the fractions that are the quarters. ($1/4$, $2/4$, $3/4$, $4/4$)

Question: *How do you know they are quarters?* (The 4 is the denominator because there are four quarters in a whole)

Can you put them on the fraction line in the correct place? Remember they will be evenly spread between the 0 and the 1.

Ask your child to find the fractions that are the thirds. ($1/3$, $2/3$, $3/3$)

Question: *How do you know they are thirds?* (The 3 is the denominator because there are three thirds in a whole)

Can you put them on the fraction line in the correct place? Remember they will be evenly spread between the 0 and the 1.

Ask your child questions about the order. For example:

What does the bottom number in the fraction tell us? (the number of parts the whole is cut into, 3 parts are called thirds with the 3 on the bottom of the fraction, 4 parts are quarters with 4 on the bottom of the fraction, and 5 parts are fifths with 5 on the bottom of the fraction).

What does the top number in the fraction tell us? (the number of pieces so $2/3$ means 2 third pieces)

What is bigger $1/4$ or $1/3$? ($1/3$)

Why is that? (The whole is split into 3 parts and so each part is bigger than when the whole is split into 4 parts. The same argument is why $1/2$ is bigger than $1/3$ and bigger than $1/4$)

Why are $3/3$, $4/4$ and $5/5$ all the same as 1 whole? (1 whole can be cut into 3 equal pieces and written as 3 third pieces $3/3$, it can also be split into 4 equal pieces and written as 4 quarter pieces, and $5/5$ is 5 fifth pieces).

What to expect your child to do:

- To read the fractions correctly.
- To arrange each type of fraction quarters, thirds, fifths evenly between the 0 and the 1.
- Talk about what fractions mean.

Variation:

Cut out the fraction bar and find the place for the quarters by folding it into 4 parts, mark these folds with a pen, then open it out and fold it into 3 parts to find the thirds, and again open it out and fold it into 5 parts to find the fifths.

He Kupu Māori:

hautau	fraction
kotahi haurua	one half
rua haurima	two fifths
raupapa (hia)	order/sequence
rārangi hautau	fraction line
nui ake	bigger
iti iho	smaller

He Whakawhitinga Kōrero:

- Horahia nga kāri ki te tepu, ko ngā mata ki runga. (*Spread the cards out on the table, face up.*)
- Kimihia ngā hauwhā katoa. (*Find all of the quarter fractions.*)
- He aha tātou i mōhio ai he hauwhā ēnā hautau? (*How do we know that those fractions are quarters?*)
- He whā te tauraro o ngā hauwhā. Koia hei tohu i te wāwāhitanga o tētahi mea kia whā ngā wāhanga ōrite. (*4 is the bottom number of the fraction (denominator), which signifies something is divided into 4 equal parts.*)
- Raupapahia ngā hauwhā ki te rārangi hautau. (*Put the quarters onto the number line in order.*)
- Ko tēhea te hauwhā iti rawa atu? (*Which is the smallest quarter fraction?*)
- Ko te pito mauī o te rārangi hautau hei tohu i te kore, ko te pito matau te kotahi. (*The left hand end of the fraction line is zero, and the right end is one.*)
- Whakatakatoria ngā hauwhā kia ōrite te wāhi ki waenganui i tēnā me tēnā. (*Place the quarters so that the distance between each of them is the same.*)
- He aha te tikanga o te tauraro o te hautau? (*What is the meaning of the bottom number (denominator) of the fraction?*)
- Ko te tauraro hei tohu i te maha o ngā wāhanga ōrite o tētahi mea. (*The bottom number (denominator) determines the number of equal parts something is divided in to.*)
- He nui ake te kotahi haurua, te kotahi hauwhā rānei? (*Which is bigger, 1/3 or 1/4?*)
- He nui ake te kotahi haurua, nā te mea kua wāwāhia tētahi mea kia toru ngā wāhanga ōrite, ā, he nui ake aua wāhanga i te wāwāhitanga o tētahi mea kia whā ngā wāhanga ōrite. (*One third is bigger because something has been divided into three equal parts, and those parts will be bigger than if it was divided into four equal parts.*)
- He aha te tikanga o te taurunga o te hautau? (*What is the meaning of the top number (numerator) of the fraction?*)
- Ko te taurunga hei tohu i te maha o ngā wāhanga e kōrerotia ana. (*The top number (numerator) tells us how many parts we are talking about.*)
- He aha ngā hautau e ōrite ana ki te kotahi? (*What are the fractions that are equal to one?*)
- E ōrite ana te rua haurua, te toru haurua, te whā hauwhā me te rima haurima ki te kotahi. (*2 halves, 3 thirds, 4 quarters and 5 fifths are equal to one.*)

Fraction bar and cards



$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{3}{3}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{2}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$
$\frac{4}{4}$	$\frac{1}{5}$	$\frac{2}{5}$	$\frac{3}{5}$	$\frac{4}{5}$	$\frac{5}{5}$