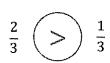
G3-N/5-Lesson 18

Place the two fractions on the number line. Circle the fraction with the distance closest to 0. Then, compare using >, <, or =.

1.

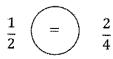


 $\begin{array}{c|cccc}
\frac{0}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & \frac{3}{3} \\
\hline
0 & & & & & \\
\end{array}$

Both fractions are thirds, so I need to partition my number line into thirds. Then, I can count and label the 2 fractions on the number line and circle the fraction with the distance closest to 0.

I can think of the number line like a giant ruler. When I use a ruler, I start at 0 to measure. Then, I can compare the measurements. It's the same when comparing fractions. The fraction's distance from 0 helps me to compare. 1 third is a shorter distance from 0, so it is the smaller fraction. 2 thirds is a greater distance away from 0, so it is the larger fraction.

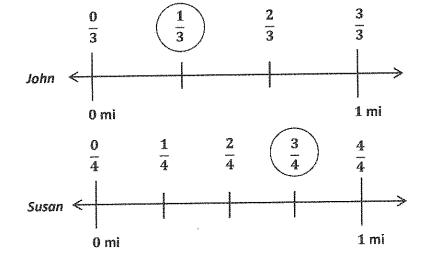
2.



These fractions have different numbers on the bottom. I'll count and label halves above my number line and fourths below.

I know these are equivalent fractions because they are the same distance from 0 on the number line. I plotted them at the same point.

3. To get to the library, John walks $\frac{1}{3}$ mile from his house. Susan walks $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from her house. Draw a number line to model how far each student walks. Who walks farther? Explain how you know using pictures, numbers, and words.



Susan walks farther. My number lines show that $\frac{1}{3}$ is closer to 0 than $\frac{3}{4}$, so $\frac{1}{3}$ is less than $\frac{3}{4}$.

I can draw 2 number lines. John's number line is partitioned into thirds, and Susan's number line is partitioned into fourths. I have to make sure that both my number lines have the same distance from 0 to 1 because if the whole changes, then the distance between the fractions also changes. I wouldn't be able to compare the 2 distances accurately.

 $\frac{1}{3} < \frac{3}{4}$

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