

Extra Support week 5 - What is a fraction?

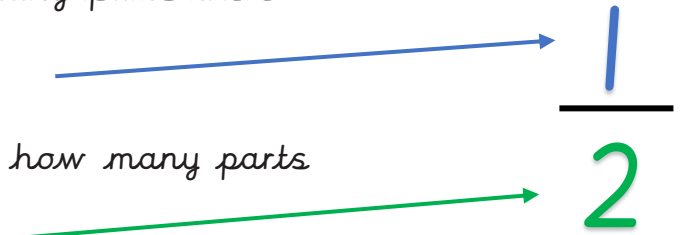
A fraction means a part of something or a number of parts of something.
There are two parts to a fraction:

- The number on top shows how many parts there are

This is called the **numerator**

- The number on the bottom shows how many parts something has been divided into

This is called the **denominator**.



Often fractions are shown as shapes.

This circle shows the fraction $\frac{1}{3}$

The shaded part represents the numerator. Only 1 part is shaded so the numerator is 1

The denominator is the total number of parts including the shaded part. This circle has been divided into 3 parts so the denominator is 3



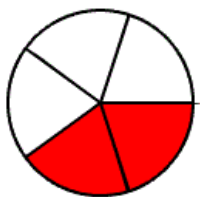
This rectangle shows the fraction $\frac{1}{4}$

1 part is shaded so the numerator is 1

The shape has been divided into 4 parts so the denominator is 4

1

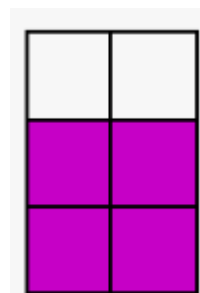
Sometimes shapes have more than one part shaded.



This shape shows $\frac{2}{5}$

2 parts are shaded
so the numerator is 2

There are 5 parts in total
So the denominator is 5



This shape shows $\frac{4}{6}$

4 parts are shaded
so the numerator is 4
There are 6 parts in total
So the denominator is 6

When the numerator and denominator are the same. It is a **whole**. On a shaded shape this would look like this →

The numerator is 8 as all parts (The **whole** of it) is shaded and the denominator is 8 because there are 8 parts.



$\frac{8}{8}$