Fraction bets!

Children look at fractions and make a hypothesis of which ones are closest. They then test this out by placing fractions on a line.

Skills practised:

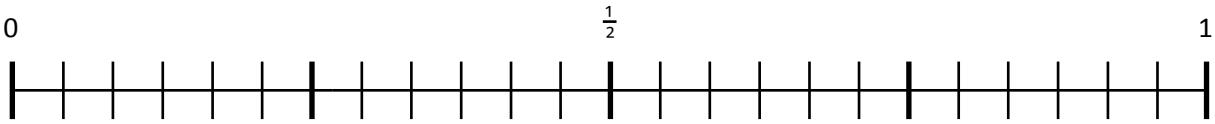
- Writing fractions along a line
- Comparing fractions on a line

***Conjecture**: We can create a hypothesis suggesting which fractions are closest together, then test it using a line.*

What to do:

Children work in groups of 3 or 4.
You will need fraction cards with these fractions: ⅛, ⅜, ⅝, ⅞, ⅙, ⅚, ¼, ¾, ⅓, ⅔, ½. You will also need the fraction line. One end is marked 0, and the other is marked 1 (see resources).

1. Spread out the cards. Explain that we will be placing all these fractions along a line. Before we do that, we shall be betting on which two will be closest together.
2. Children discuss which two fractions are closest together. Which two fractions are nearly the same amount?
3. Children discuss this, and then each child has to place a fraction bet. They write their fraction bet down: I bet that ¾ and ⅚ are closest together.
4. Children now use the line and start marking the different fractions on it. They will need to discuss where each one goes.



5. Continue until it is clear which fractions are really close to each other on the line.
6. Whose bet was correct?

HINT: It helps to use different colours for each fraction family. It also helps to mark all of one fraction family before starting another one.

Aims:

- To discuss the relative size of fractions and to create a hypothesis
- To test out the hypothesis using a number line

Minimum number of calculations expected

N/A

© Hamilton Trust

Fraction bets!

1. Spread out the fraction cards. We will be placing all these fractions along a line. Before we do that, place your bet on which two will be closest together.

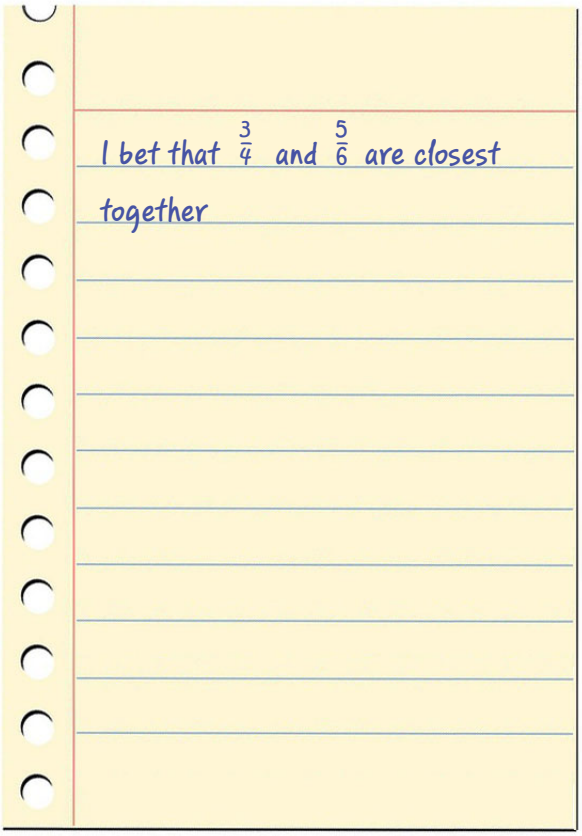
2. Talk about which two fractions are closest together. Which two fractions are nearly the same amount?

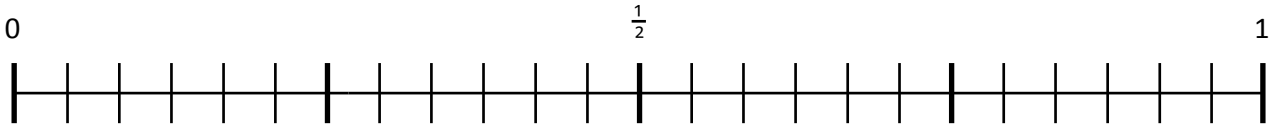
3. Write your fraction bet down.

4. Use the line. Mark the different fractions on it. Make sure you mark each one in the correct place.

5. Continue until it is clear which fractions are really close to each other on the line.

6. Whose bet was correct?

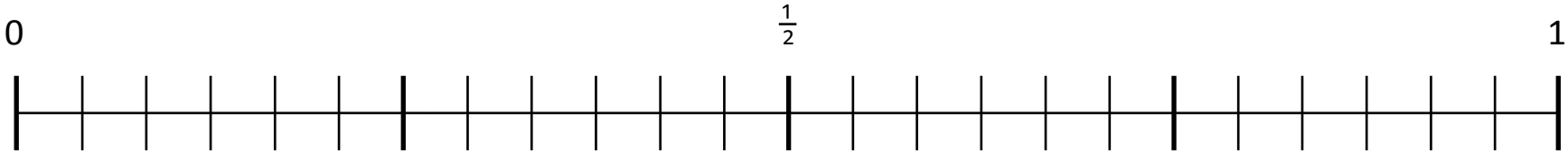




© Hamilton Trust

Fraction bets!

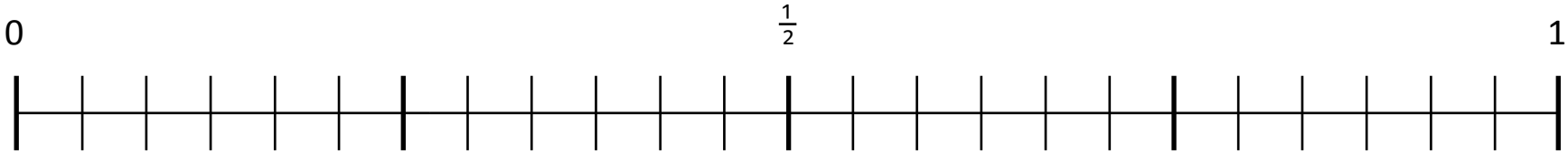
$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{5}{8}$	$\frac{7}{8}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{5}{6}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{1}{2}$



© Hamilton Trust

Fraction bets!

$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{5}{8}$	$\frac{7}{8}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{5}{6}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{1}{2}$



© Hamilton Trust