

Fraction Split Lab

Break fractions apart in more than one way.

GRADE 4 • 4.NF.B.3b

CCSS.Math.Content.4.NF.B.3b "Decompose a fraction into a sum of fractions with the same denominator in more than one way, recording each decomposition by an equation. Justify decompositions, e.g., by using a visual fraction model. Examples: $3/8 = 1/8 + 1/8 + 1/8$..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

SPLIT THE NUMERATOR

To decompose a fraction, split its numerator into smaller addends and keep the denominator the same. You can check your work by adding the numerators while keeping the denominator unchanged.

WORKED EXAMPLE

Decompose $11/13$ in two ways.

1. Split 11 into $4 + 7$.
2. Write $11/13 = 4/13 + 7/13$.
3. Split 11 into $2 + 3 + 6$.
4. Write $11/13 = 2/13 + 3/13 + 6/13$.

Answer: $11/13 = 4/13 + 7/13$; $11/13 = 2/13 + 3/13 + 6/13$

PRACTICE 6 problems

- 1** Write $3/8$ as a sum of three unit fractions.

ANSWER _____

- 2** Write two different equations that decompose $4/6$.

ANSWER _____

- 3** Decompose $7/12$ into a sum of three fractions with denominator 12.

ANSWER _____

- 4** Find x . Then write the completed equation:
 $8/10 = 3/10 + x/10$.

ANSWER _____

- 5** Which equation is correct? A. $6/7 = 1/7 + 4/7$ B. $6/7 = 2/7 + 4/7$ C. $6/7 = 3/7 + 4/7$

ANSWER _____

- 6** Lena writes $2/8 + 6/8 = 10/8$. What should she write instead?

ANSWER _____

APPLY IT Show your work

- 1** During an art app challenge, Devon colored $\frac{3}{4}$ of a digital badge. Write two different equations that show how Devon could split the colored part into fractions with denominator 4.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

- 2** A team finished $\frac{7}{10}$ of a coding maze in three rounds. Write one equation that decomposes the finished part into three fractions with denominator 10.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

CHALLENGE One step up

CHALLENGE

Nora writes $3\frac{5}{8} = \frac{8}{8} + \frac{8}{8} + \frac{4}{8} + \frac{1}{8}$. Is her decomposition correct? Explain, then write a correct decomposition using five fractions with denominator 8.

PART 1 • PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	Write $\frac{3}{8}$ as a sum of three unit fractions.	$\frac{3}{8} = \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8}$
2	Write two different equations that decompose $\frac{4}{6}$.	$\frac{4}{6} = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{3}{6}$; $\frac{4}{6} = \frac{2}{6} + \frac{2}{6}$
3	Decompose $\frac{7}{12}$ into a sum of three fractions with denominator 12.	$\frac{7}{12} = \frac{1}{12} + \frac{2}{12} + \frac{4}{12}$
4	Find x . Then write the completed equation: $\frac{8}{10} = \frac{3}{10} + \frac{x}{10}$.	$x = 5$; $\frac{8}{10} = \frac{3}{10} + \frac{5}{10}$
5	Which equation is correct? A. $\frac{6}{7} = \frac{1}{7} + \frac{4}{7}$ B. $\frac{6}{7} = \frac{2}{7} + \frac{4}{7}$ C. $\frac{6}{7} = \frac{3}{7} + \frac{4}{7}$	B. $\frac{6}{7} = \frac{2}{7} + \frac{4}{7}$
6	Lena writes $\frac{2}{8} + \frac{6}{8} = \frac{10}{8}$. What should she write instead?	$\frac{2}{8} + \frac{6}{8} = \frac{8}{8}$

PART 2 • APPLY IT

- $\frac{3}{4} = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{4}$; $\frac{3}{4} = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}$** Both decompositions keep denominator 4. The numerators in each equation add to 3.
- $\frac{7}{10} = \frac{2}{10} + \frac{2}{10} + \frac{3}{10}$** Keep denominator 10 for all three fractions. The numerators 2, 2, and 3 add to 7.

CHALLENGE

No. The numerators in Nora's equation add to 21, which is $2\frac{5}{8}$. A correct decomposition is $3\frac{5}{8} = \frac{8}{8} + \frac{8}{8} + \frac{8}{8} + \frac{4}{8} + \frac{1}{8}$.

Accept any decomposition with the stated denominator when the numerators add to the original numerator. For open-response items, equivalent correct decompositions may use different numbers of addends unless the prompt specifies a number of addends.