

Fraction Size Detective

Use the size of a fraction to predict the product.

GRADE 5 • 5.NR.3.5

5.NR.3.5 "Explain why multiplying a whole number by a fraction greater than one results in a product greater than the whole number, and why multiplying a whole number by a fraction less than one results in a product less than the whole number and..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

THE BIG IDEA

When you multiply a positive whole number by a fraction greater than 1, the product is greater than the whole number. A fraction less than 1 makes the product smaller, and a fraction equal to 1 keeps the product the same.

WORKED EXAMPLE

Find $18 \times 7/6$. Is the product greater than, less than, or equal to 18?

1. $7/6$ is greater than 1.
2. $18 \times 7/6 = (18 \div 6) \times 7$
3. $3 \times 7 = 21$

Answer: 21, which is greater than 18.

PRACTICE 6 problems

- 1** Find $9 \times 2/3$. Is the product greater than, less than, or equal to 9?

ANSWER _____

- 2** Find $11 \times 5/4$. Is the product greater than, less than, or equal to 11?

ANSWER _____

- 3** Find $15 \times 8/8$. Is the product greater than, less than, or equal to 15?

ANSWER _____

- 4** Find $20 \times 3/2$. Is the product greater than, less than, or equal to 20?

ANSWER _____

- 5** Find $14 \times 4/7$. Is the product greater than, less than, or equal to 14?

ANSWER _____

- 6** Find 16×1 . Is the product greater than, less than, or equal to 16?

ANSWER _____

APPLY IT Show your work

- 1** An art club has 24 students. A display has space for $\frac{3}{4}$ as many mini-posters as students. How many mini-posters fit on the display? Is this number greater than or less than 24? Explain.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

- 2** A video game gives a player 15 stars. A special level multiplies the stars by $\frac{4}{3}$. How many stars does the player have? Is this number greater than or less than 15? Explain.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

CHALLENGE One step up

CHALLENGE

Mina says, "Any multiplication makes a number larger." Use $25 \times \frac{1}{5}$ to decide whether Mina is correct. Find the product and explain.

PART 1 • PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	Find $9 \times \frac{2}{3}$. Is the product greater than, less than, or equal to 9?	6, less than 9 because $\frac{2}{3}$ is less than 1.
2	Find $11 \times \frac{5}{4}$. Is the product greater than, less than, or equal to 11?	$13 \frac{3}{4}$, greater than 11 because $\frac{5}{4}$ is greater than 1.
3	Find $15 \times \frac{8}{8}$. Is the product greater than, less than, or equal to 15?	15, equal to 15 because $\frac{8}{8}$ equals 1.
4	Find $20 \times \frac{3}{2}$. Is the product greater than, less than, or equal to 20?	30, greater than 20 because $\frac{3}{2}$ is greater than 1.
5	Find $14 \times \frac{4}{7}$. Is the product greater than, less than, or equal to 14?	8, less than 14 because $\frac{4}{7}$ is less than 1.
6	Find 16×1 . Is the product greater than, less than, or equal to 16?	16, equal to 16 because 1 equals 1.

PART 2 • APPLY IT

- 18 mini-posters. This is less than 24 because $\frac{3}{4}$ is less than 1.** Multiply $24 \times \frac{3}{4} = 18$. Since $\frac{3}{4}$ is less than 1, the product is less than 24.
- 20 stars. This is greater than 15 because $\frac{4}{3}$ is greater than 1.** Multiply $15 \times \frac{4}{3} = 20$. Since $\frac{4}{3}$ is greater than 1, the product is greater than 15.

CHALLENGE

Mina is not correct. $25 \times \frac{1}{5} = 5$, which is less than 25 because $\frac{1}{5}$ is less than 1.

Accept equivalent fraction forms, such as $\frac{55}{4}$ for $13 \frac{3}{4}$. Students should state that the fraction is greater than, less than, or equal to 1 when explaining the comparison.