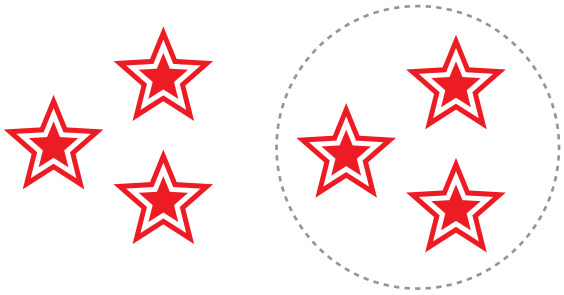
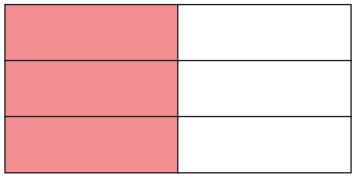
Fractions

To create a fraction, the whole is divided into equal parts. The size of the fraction will depend on the size of the original whole, eg ½ of a big orange will be larger than ½ of a small orange. The whole can be one object or a group of objects.

Fraction of a group: ½ of 6 is circled



Fraction of a whole (rectangle): ½ of the rectangle is shaded



Common fractions are represented by one number over a dividing line.

The **bottom number** is called the **DENOMINATOR**.

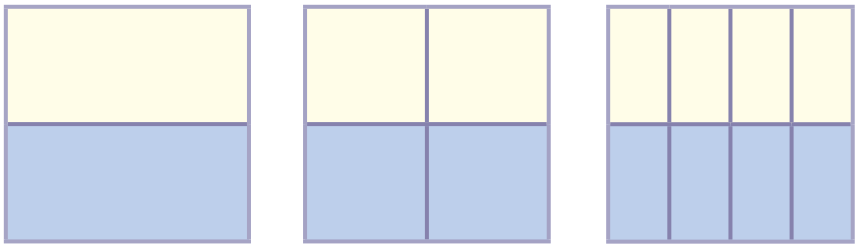
It tells us the size of the part that the whole is divided into.

$$\frac{3}{4}$$

The **top number** is called the **NUMERATOR**.

It tells us how many of the divided parts.

Equivalent fractions are fractions that are equal in value but have different names.



$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{4}{8} = \frac{50}{100}$

Fractions can be written as

- common fractions (with a numerator and denominator),
- decimal fractions (using the decimal point) or
- percentages (per hundred – %)

Fraction comes from the Latin word *frangere*, which means to break.