## Represent Subtraction with <br> Unlike Denominators

## Florida's B.E.S.T.

- Fractions 5.FR.2.1
- Mathematical Thinking \& Reasoning MTR.1.1, MTR.2.1, MTR.3.1, MTR.4.1, MTR.5.1, MTR.6.1, MTR.7. 1


## I Can use visual models to subtract fractions that have unlike denominators.

## Investigate

Mario fills a hummingbird feeder with $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of sugar water on Friday. On Monday, Mario sees that $\frac{1}{8}$ cup of sugar water is left. How much sugar water did the hummingbirds drink?

Materials $■$ fraction strips $\llbracket$ MathBoard
A. Find $\frac{3}{4}-\frac{1}{8}$. Place three $\frac{1}{4}$-strips under the 1 -whole strip on your MathBoard. Then place a $\frac{1}{8}$-strip under the $\frac{1}{4}$-strips.

B. Find fraction strips, all with the same denominator, that fit exactly under the difference $\frac{3}{4}-\frac{1}{8}$.

C. Record the difference. $\frac{3}{4}-\frac{1}{8}=$ $\qquad$

So, the hummingbirds drank $\qquad$ cup of sugar water.

How can you tell if the difference of the fractions is less than 1? Explain.

## Draw Conclusions

1. Describe how you determined what fraction strips, all with the same denominator, would fit exactly under the difference. What are they?
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
2. MTR Explain whether you could have used fraction strips with any other denominator to find the difference. If so, what is the denominator?

## Make Connections

Sometimes you can use different sets of same-denominator fraction strips to find the difference. All the answers will be correct.

Solve. $\frac{2}{3}-\frac{1}{6}$
(A)

Find fraction strips, all with the same denominator, that fit exactly under the difference $\frac{2}{3}-\frac{1}{6}$.

$\frac{2}{3}-\frac{1}{6}=\frac{3}{6}$

B Find another set of fraction strips, all with the same denominator, that fit exactly under the difference $\frac{2}{3}-\frac{1}{6}$. Draw the fraction strips you used.

$\frac{2}{3}-\frac{1}{6}=$

C Find other fraction strips, all with the same denominator, that fit exactly under the difference $\frac{2}{3}-\frac{1}{6}$. Draw the fraction strips you used.

$\frac{2}{3}-\frac{1}{6}=$

While each answer appears different, all the answers can be simplified to $\qquad$ .

## Share and Show Math



Use fraction strips to find the difference.
1.

$\frac{7}{10}-\frac{2}{5}=$
2.

$\frac{2}{3}-\frac{1}{4}=$ $\qquad$

