

# Compare Fractions Using Benchmarks

A **benchmark** is a known size or amount that helps you understand a different size or amount. You can use  $\frac{1}{2}$  as a benchmark.

Sara reads for  $\frac{3}{6}$  hour every day after school. Connor reads for  $\frac{2}{3}$  hour. Who reads for a longer amount of time?

**Compare the fractions.**  $\frac{3}{6} \bigcirc \frac{2}{3}$

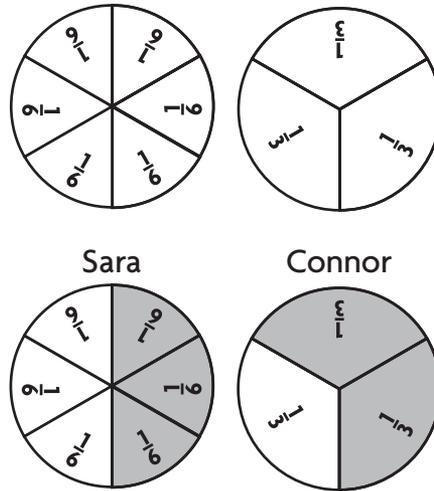
**Step 1** Divide one circle into 6 equal parts. Divide another circle into 3 equal parts.

**Step 2** Shade  $\frac{3}{6}$  of the first circle. How many parts will you shade? **3 parts**

**Step 3** Shade  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the second circle.

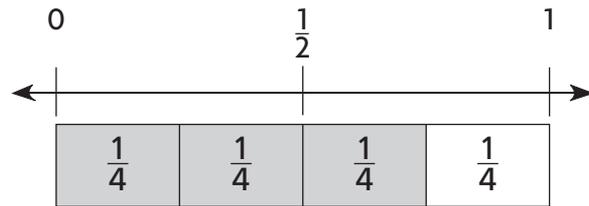
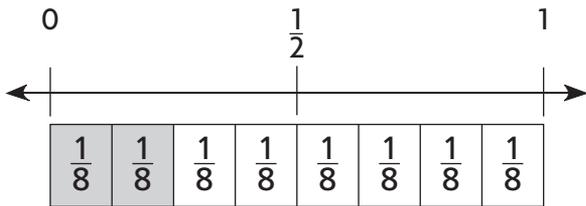
How many parts will you shade? **2 parts**

**Step 4** Compare the shaded parts of each circle. Half of Sara's circle is shaded. More than half of Connor's circle is shaded.



$\frac{3}{6}$  is less than  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Since  $\frac{3}{6} < \frac{2}{3}$ , Connor reads for a longer amount of time.

**1** Compare  $\frac{2}{8}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$ . Write  $<$  or  $>$ .



Compare. Write  $<$  or  $>$ .

$\frac{2}{8} < \frac{3}{4}$

**2**  $\frac{1}{4} \bigcirc \frac{8}{10}$

**3**  $\frac{7}{8} \bigcirc \frac{1}{3}$

**4**  $\frac{5}{12} \bigcirc \frac{1}{2}$

**5**  $\frac{2}{8} \bigcirc \frac{8}{12}$

**6**  $\frac{4}{6} \bigcirc \frac{4}{8}$

**7**  $\frac{7}{12} \bigcirc \frac{2}{4}$