



1) $2\frac{1}{3} - \frac{5}{6} = 1\frac{3}{6}$

starting number	find the equivalent fraction	subtract

Use this method to solve these calculations:

a) $1\frac{3}{4} - \frac{7}{8} =$ _____

b) $2\frac{2}{5} - \frac{9}{10} =$ _____

c) $2\frac{2}{3} - \frac{8}{9} =$ _____

2) When we need to break up one of the wholes to subtract, we can use flexible partitioning.

$$4\frac{1}{4} - \frac{7}{8} = 3 + 1\frac{1}{4} - \frac{7}{8} = 3 + 1\frac{2}{8} - \frac{7}{8} = 3\frac{3}{8}$$

Showing your working out, use flexible partitioning to solve these calculations:

a) $2\frac{3}{5} - \frac{7}{10} =$ _____

b) $5\frac{1}{2} - \frac{5}{8} =$ _____

c) $3\frac{5}{6} - \frac{11}{12} =$ _____

3) Use both of these methods to find the answer to this calculation.

$2\frac{1}{2} - \frac{7}{8} =$ _____

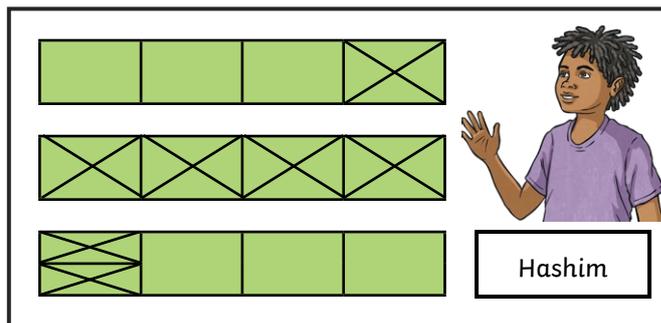
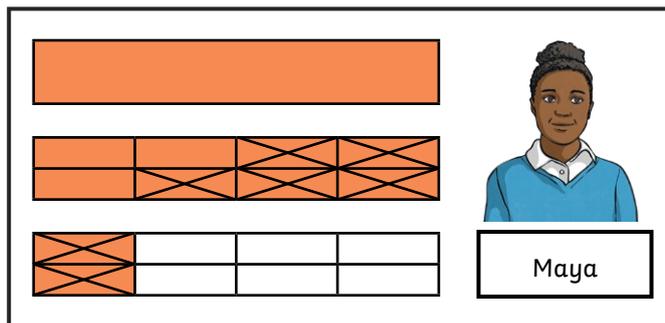
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Which method do you prefer? Why?



1) $2\frac{1}{4} - \frac{7}{8} =$

Two children have drawn bar models to solve this calculation.



a) Whose bar model shows the correct answer? What answer does it show?

b) What mistake did the other child make?

2) I have three whole chocolate bars and one third of another bar. I eat five sixths of one of the chocolate bars. How much chocolate is left?

a) Sam has tried to use flexible partitioning to solve this word problem. What did he do wrong?

$$3\frac{1}{3} - \frac{5}{6} = 2 + 1\frac{1}{3} - \frac{5}{6} = 2 + 2\frac{2}{6} - \frac{5}{6} = 3\frac{3}{6} = 3\frac{1}{2}$$

b) Use flexible partitioning to find the correct answer to the word problem. Give your answer in its simplest form.

3) Mr Sharp's class have five whole birthday cakes and one half of another cake left over from a party. Mr Sharp is feeling hungry when he is doing his marking, so he eats seven tenths of a cake. How much cake is left?

a) Which method is more efficient to solve this word problem – drawing a bar model or using flexible partitioning? Why?

b) Use this method to solve the problem, giving your answer in its simplest form.



1) Fill in the missing digits to complete the calculations. Give all fractions in their simplest form.

a) $2\frac{\square}{5} - \frac{7}{10} = 1\frac{9}{10}$

b) $4\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\square}{4} = 3\frac{1}{\square}$

c) $\frac{5}{6} + \frac{\square}{\square} = 3\frac{1}{6}$

2) Find all the possible ways to complete this calculation: $6\frac{1}{12} - \frac{1}{\square} = 5\frac{\square}{12}$

3) Write a word problem that involves subtracting a proper fraction from a mixed number for your partner to solve.

- Make sure that your subtraction breaks the whole.
- Use denominators that are different but are in the same times table.
