

# FRACTION FRENZY

**Purpose:** Students will reduce fractions to their lowest form.

**Suggested Grade Level:** 4 - 5

**Math SOL:** Number and Number Sense 4.2, 5.2

## **Equipment/Materials Needed:**

1. Index cards (number needed determined by class size)
2. List of non-simplified fractions (provided)
3. List of simplified fractions (provided)
4. Hoops, Frisbees, or paper plates (one for each reduced fraction)
5. Labels for hoops

## **Advance Preparation:**

1. Decide which 4-6 simplified fractions (provided) you want to use (ex.  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{2}{3}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ , etc.)
2. Label the hoops/Frisbees/paper plates with simplified fractions (see #1 above) and place around the room.
3. On index cards, write non-simplified fractions (some provided) which can be reduced to one of the simplified fractions represented by one of the hoops.
4. Spread the index cards on the floor.

## **Directions:**

1. Show the students the hoops and explain that they are labeled with fractions that are simplified to the lowest possible fraction.
2. Tell the students that the index cards on the floor are not simplified.
3. Divide the students into groups.
4. Tell the students that when you say “go”, each team will send 2 students at a time to pick up an index card, decide together how to simplify the fraction to its lowest form, and then place it in the corresponding hoop.
5. Tell these students to return to their group, and that the next two students may repeat the process.
6. Continue the exercise until all index cards have been placed in hoops.
7. Take the class to each hoop and ask the students whether or not the index cards have been placed correctly.

## **Teaching Suggestions:**

1. Have students start from one side of the play area, have the index cards in the center, and have the hoops on the other side of the play area.
2. Make 2 sets of the fractions so that there are enough fractions for students to have more than one turn.

**Modifications/Variations:**

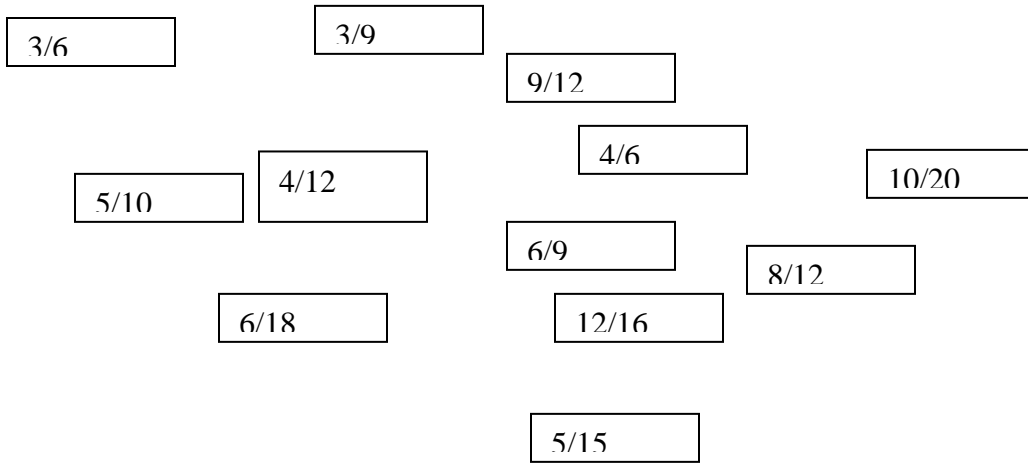
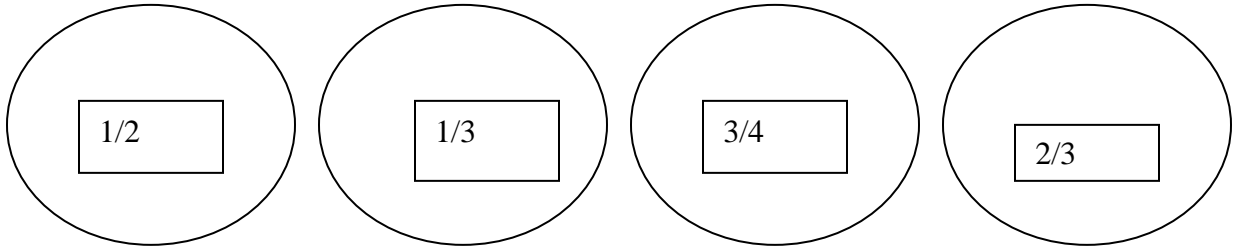
1. Have students use different locomotor skills (hop, jump, crabwalk, walk backwards, etc.) when getting index cards, and have the students who are waiting to jog in place (or other exercise) while they waiting their turn.
2. Make 3-4 sets of non-simplified fractions on different colored index cards (and assign a color for each team), and keep track of the team that gets the most correct or incorrect based on their color.

*This lesson was developed by the School Health Initiative Program (SHIP) for the Williamsburg James City County Public Schools (WJCCPS), Williamsburg, VA. SHIP is funded by the Williamsburg Community Health Foundation (WCHF). Parts or all of this lesson can be used and reproduced without permission provided that SHIP, WJCCPS and WCHF are credited.*



*Williamsburg Community  
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# FRACTION FRENZY – PLAY AREA SET-UP



X X  
X X  
X X  
X X

X X  
X X  
X X  
X X

X X  
X X  
X X  
X X

X – Lines of students

Cards

FRACTION FRENZY - FRACTIONS TO BE REDUCED

$2/6$     $3/9$     $4/12$

$5/15$     $6/18$

$11/33$     $2/4$

$3/6$     $4/8$

15/30

6/12

10/20

5/10

7/14

2/8

3/12

4/16

5/20

6/24

7/28

6/8

9/12

12/16

15/20

16/24

$4/6$     $6/9$     $8/12$

$10/15$     $12/18$

$14/21$

## FRACTION FRENZY HOOP LABELS

$\frac{1}{2}$

$\frac{1}{3}$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{2}{3}$

$\frac{3}{4}$