Fractions on a Number Line

Explore ideas and representations

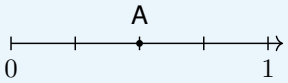
Name _____ **Date** _____ **Score** _____ / 6

QUICK REVIEW

Fractions are numbers with exact positions. If 0 to 1 has 4 equal intervals, each is $\frac{1}{4}$. The third interval ends at $\frac{3}{4}$; the fifth ends at $\frac{5}{4}$, between 1 and 2. Count spaces, not the tick marks.

Worked example

Name the number at point A. Count equal intervals, not tick marks.

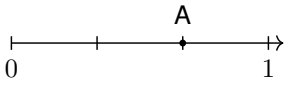


1. Each whole from 0 to 1 has 4 equal intervals, so each interval is $\frac{1}{4}$.
2. A is 2 intervals from 0, giving $2 \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{2}{4}$.
Answer: $A = \frac{2}{4}$.

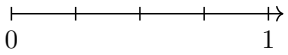
Practice Problems

Show your thinking.

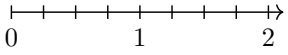
1. Name the number at point A. Count equal intervals, not tick marks.



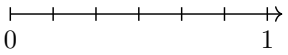
2. Place a dot at $\frac{3}{4}$ and label it P on this line.



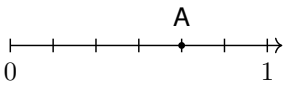
3. Between which two whole numbers is $\frac{5}{4}$? Mark it on the line.



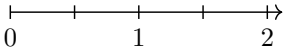
4. Jo counts the 7 tick marks from 0 to 1 and says each step is $\frac{1}{7}$. Correct the step size.



5. Name the number at point A. Count equal intervals, not tick marks.



6. Place a dot at $\frac{3}{2}$ and label it P on this line.



Answer Key

1. $A = \frac{2}{3}$.
2. P is at tick 3 after 0, at $\frac{3}{4}$.
3. Between 1 and 2.
4. Each step is $\frac{1}{6}$.
5. $A = \frac{4}{6}$.
6. P is at tick 3 after 0, at $\frac{3}{2}$.

Step-by-Step Solutions

Follow each calculation, then check your own work.

Problem 1

1. Each whole from 0 to 1 has 3 equal intervals, so each interval is $\frac{1}{3}$.

2. A is 2 intervals from 0, giving $2 \times \frac{1}{3} = \frac{2}{3}$.

Problem 2

1. The unit interval is divided into 4 equal lengths, each $\frac{1}{4}$.

2. Count 3 of those lengths from 0: $3 \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$. Put P there.

Problem 3

1. 1 wholes use 4 intervals of size $\frac{1}{4}$.

2. $4 < 5 < 8$, so $1 < \frac{5}{4} < 2$. Start at zero and move right 5 equal intervals of size $\frac{1}{4}$. Mark the endpoint.

Problem 4

1. 7 tick marks enclose only 6 spaces between 0 and 1.

2. One whole divided into 6 equal spaces gives $\frac{1}{6}$ per step, not $\frac{1}{7}$.

Problem 5

1. Each whole from 0 to 1 has 6 equal intervals, so each interval is $\frac{1}{6}$.

2. A is 4 intervals from 0, giving $4 \times \frac{1}{6} = \frac{4}{6}$.

Problem 6

1. The unit interval is divided into 2 equal lengths, each $\frac{1}{2}$.

2. Count 3 of those lengths from 0: $3 \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{2}$. Put P there.

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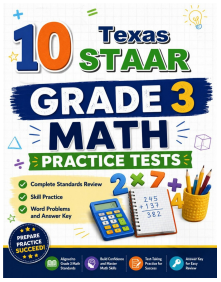

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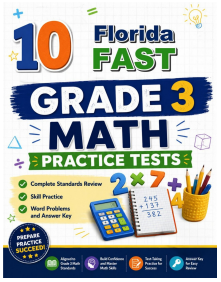

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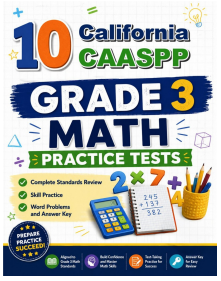

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