

# The Butterfly Method

## Comparing Fractions

Use your pencils to draw the butterfly.  
Then write the product in the antennae  
as shown in the picture on the left.  
Then compare using  $<$ ,  $>$  or  $=$ .

Cross multiply to find  
the greater fraction

1.  $\frac{15}{8}$   $\frac{16}{5}$

2. \_\_\_\_\_

$$\frac{4}{9} \bigcirc \frac{5}{11}$$

3. \_\_\_\_\_

$$\frac{4}{6} \bigcirc \frac{7}{12}$$

4. \_\_\_\_\_

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

5. \_\_\_\_\_

$$\frac{3}{4} \bigcirc \frac{5}{6}$$

6. \_\_\_\_\_

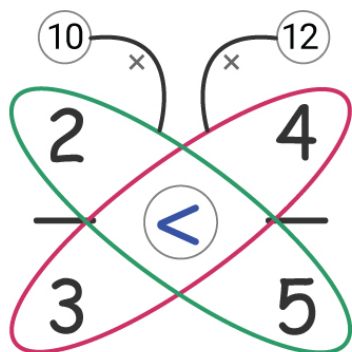
$$\frac{4}{5} \bigcirc \frac{6}{7}$$

7. \_\_\_\_\_

$$\frac{7}{8} \bigcirc \frac{8}{9}$$

8. \_\_\_\_\_

$$\frac{4}{6} \bigcirc \frac{2}{3}$$



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Use your pencils to draw the butterfly.  
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as shown in the picture on the left.  
Then compare using  $<$ ,  $>$  or  $=$ .

Cross multiply to find  
the greater fraction

### Answers

1.  $\frac{3}{8}$  and  $\frac{2}{5}$  are compared. The product of the numerators is 15, and the product of the denominators is 16. The comparison symbol  $<$  is shown in the center, indicating that  $\frac{3}{8} < \frac{2}{5}$ .

2.  $\frac{4}{9}$  and  $\frac{5}{11}$  are compared. The product of the numerators is 44, and the product of the denominators is 45. The comparison symbol  $<$  is shown in the center, indicating that  $\frac{4}{9} < \frac{5}{11}$ .

3.  $\frac{4}{6}$  and  $\frac{7}{12}$  are compared. The product of the numerators is 48, and the product of the denominators is 42. The comparison symbol  $>$  is shown in the center, indicating that  $\frac{4}{6} > \frac{7}{12}$ .

4.  $\frac{5}{8}$  and  $\frac{2}{5}$  are compared. The product of the numerators is 25, and the product of the denominators is 16. The comparison symbol  $>$  is shown in the center, indicating that  $\frac{5}{8} > \frac{2}{5}$ .

5.  $\frac{3}{4}$  and  $\frac{5}{6}$  are compared. The product of the numerators is 18, and the product of the denominators is 20. The comparison symbol  $<$  is shown in the center, indicating that  $\frac{3}{4} < \frac{5}{6}$ .

6.  $\frac{4}{5}$  and  $\frac{6}{7}$  are compared. The product of the numerators is 28, and the product of the denominators is 30. The comparison symbol  $<$  is shown in the center, indicating that  $\frac{4}{5} < \frac{6}{7}$ .

7.  $\frac{7}{8}$  and  $\frac{8}{9}$  are compared. The product of the numerators is 63, and the product of the denominators is 64. The comparison symbol  $<$  is shown in the center, indicating that  $\frac{7}{8} < \frac{8}{9}$ .

8.  $\frac{4}{6}$  and  $\frac{2}{3}$  are compared. The product of the numerators is 12, and the product of the denominators is 12. The comparison symbol  $=$  is shown in the center, indicating that  $\frac{4}{6} = \frac{2}{3}$ .