✳ 3.1. Exploring fractions and decimals

> **Remember**
>
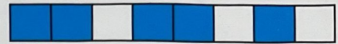> Fractions describe equal parts of a whole.

3 equal parts
are thirds.
$\frac{1}{3}$ is shaded.

5 equal parts
are fifths.
$\frac{4}{5}$ are shaded.

8 equal parts
are eighths.
$\frac{5}{8}$ are shaded.

The numerator tells how many equal parts are counted.

$$\frac{5}{8}$$

The denominator tells how many equal parts are in 1 whole.

A proper fraction represents an amount less than 1 whole. $\frac{5}{8}$ is a proper fraction.

To find a fraction of a set, start by counting.

There are 8 buttons.

6 of the 8 buttons are white.

$\frac{6}{8}$ of the buttons are white.

$\frac{2}{8}$ of the buttons are black.