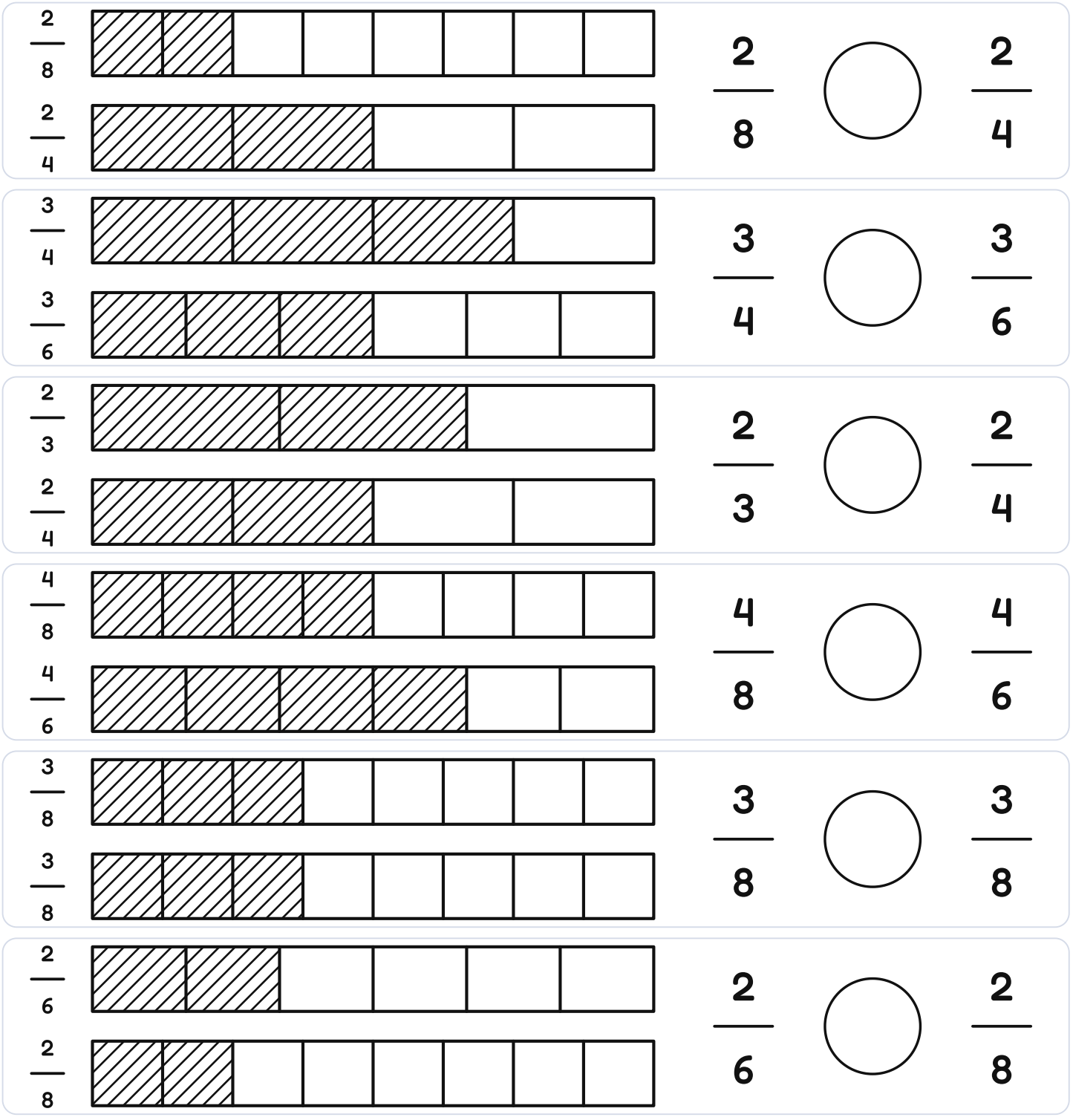
Compare Fractions: Same Top Number

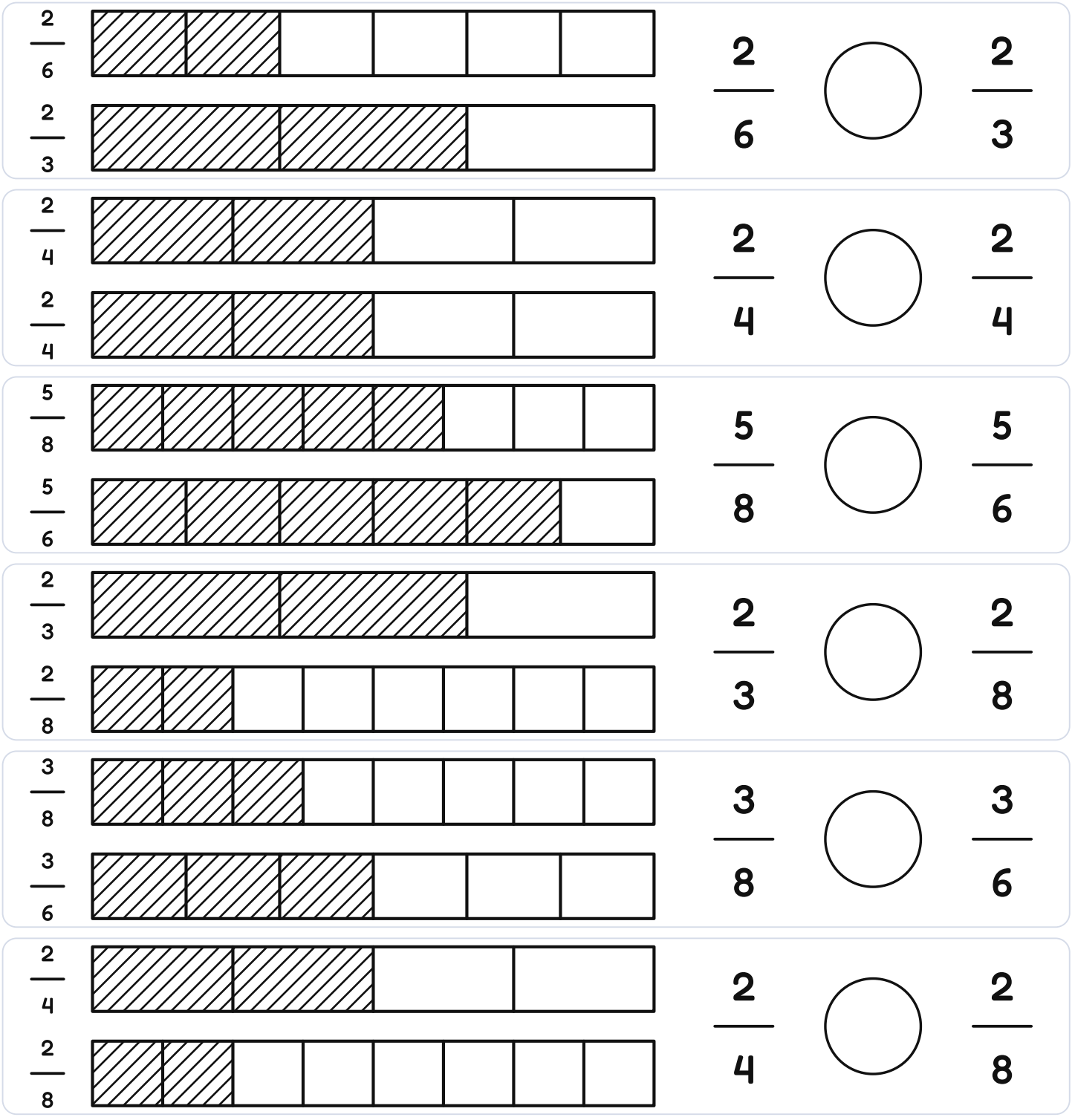
The two bars are the same length. Each has the same number of shaded pieces, so compare their size. Write >, <, or = in each circle.



Wonster WORDS
www.wonsterwords.com/download

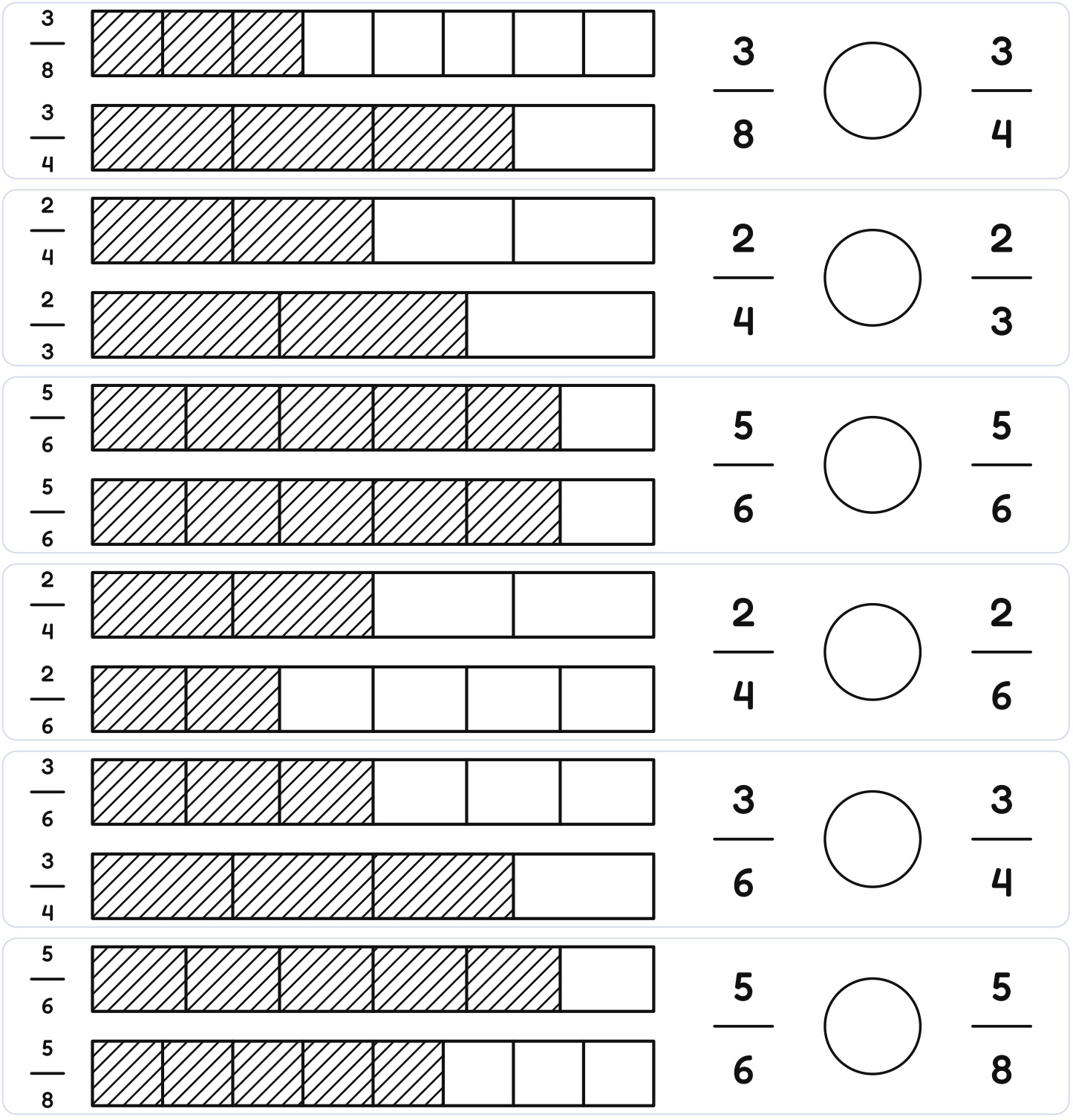
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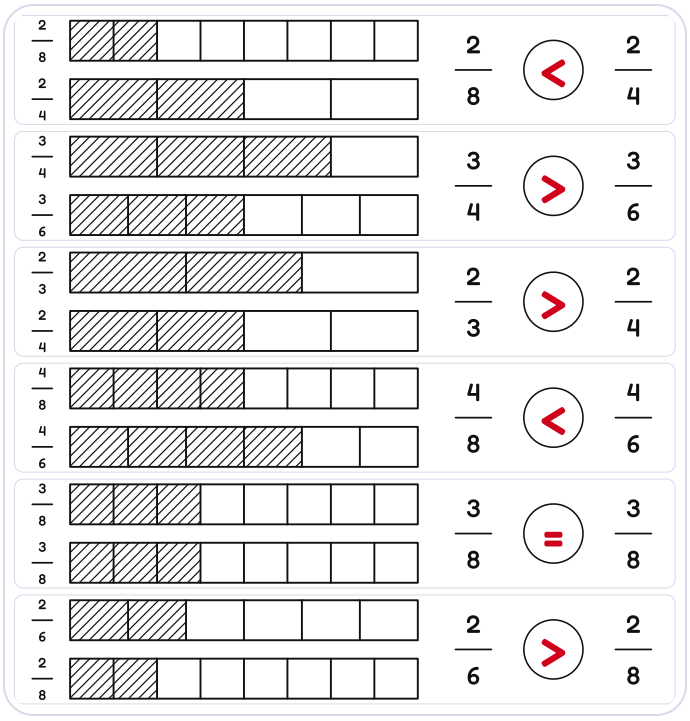
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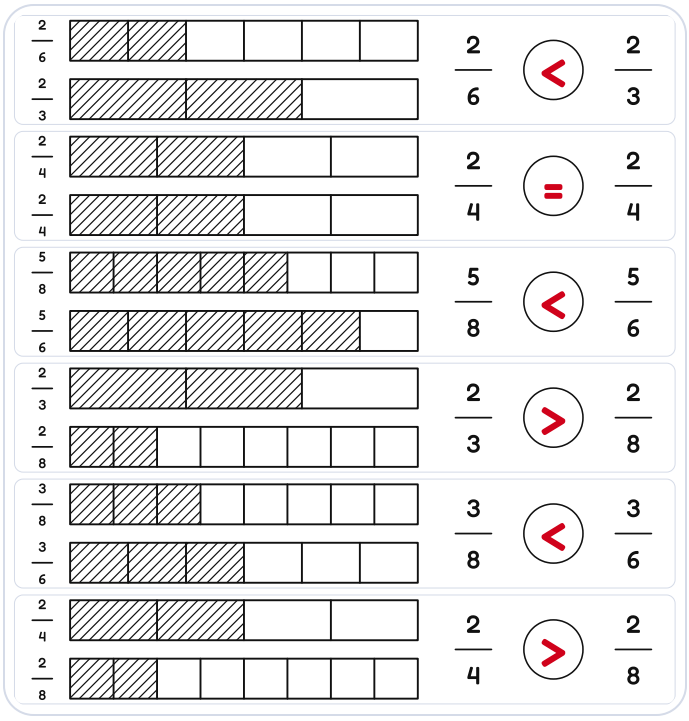
Answer Key: Same Top Number

For the grown-up. Each sign is written in its circle, in red.

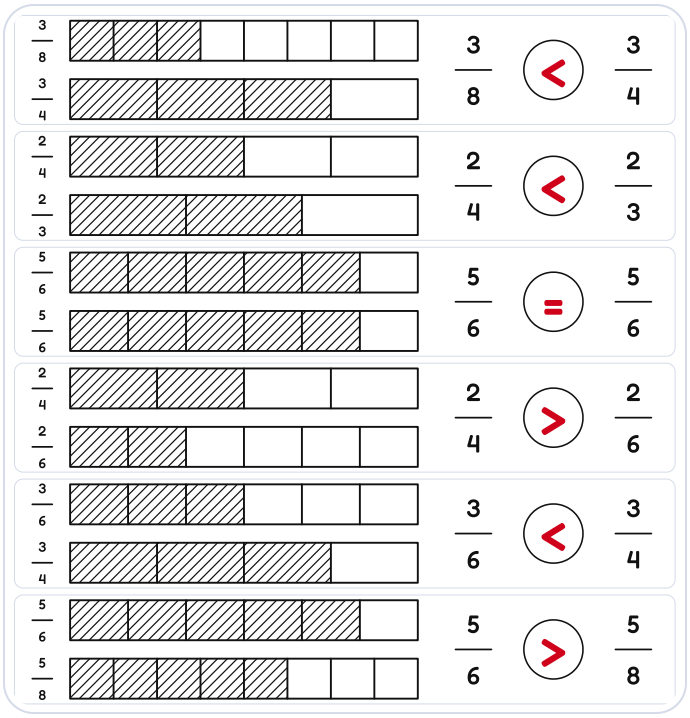
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For Grown-Ups: How to Use These Worksheets

One pair at a time, a page at a sitting. For third grade, in the Common Core and in Texas.

Why use it

When two fractions share a top number, each has the same number of pieces, so the fraction with the larger pieces is greater: 3/4 is greater than 3/8. Common Core 3.NF.A.3d and TEKS 3.3(H) ask for this by reasoning about size, and Common Core adds that it is valid only for parts of the same whole, so both bars are one length. If you learned to make the bottom numbers match first, this will look different. Comparing fractions with different tops and bottoms is fourth-grade work in both frameworks.

What it is good for

- Seeing that a larger bottom number means smaller pieces.
- Comparing two fractions by the size of their pieces.
- Breaking the whole-number habit.

How to use it

1. Take one pair at a time, and ask whether the pieces are the same size.
2. Check that both bars have the same number of shaded pieces.
3. Your child writes the sign in the circle.
4. Read the sentence aloud: three fourths is greater than three eighths.
5. Check with the answer key, where each sign is in red.

> **Try saying:** “Are the pieces the same size? Which pieces are larger?”

Tip: A child who says 3/8 is greater than 3/4 because 8 is greater than 4 is making the 7 > 5 mistake. Put a finger on the end of each shaded part.