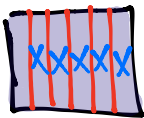NOTE : Since there are a variety of methods to solve these problems, we will demonstrate that variety in the answer key.
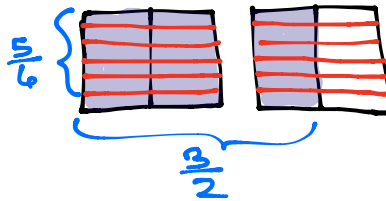
Name _____ Date _____

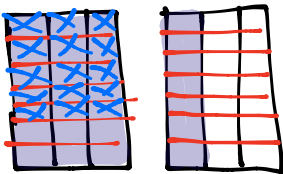1. Find the difference. Use a rectangular fraction model to show how to convert to fractions with common denominators.

a) $1 - \dfrac{5}{6} = \dfrac{6}{6} - \dfrac{5}{6} = \dfrac{1}{6}$

b) $\dfrac{3}{2} - \dfrac{5}{6} = \dfrac{18}{12} - \dfrac{10}{12} = \dfrac{8}{12} = \dfrac{2}{3}$

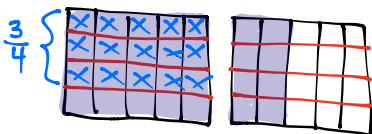c) $\dfrac{4}{3} - \dfrac{5}{7} = \dfrac{28}{21} - \dfrac{15}{21} = \dfrac{13}{21}$
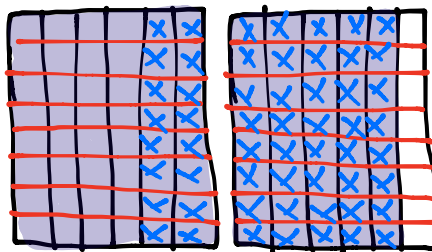

d) $1\dfrac{1}{8} - \dfrac{3}{5} =$

$\dfrac{5}{5} + \dfrac{1}{8} - \dfrac{3}{5}$

$\dfrac{2}{5} + \dfrac{1}{8} = \dfrac{16}{40} - \dfrac{5}{40} = \dfrac{11}{40}$

e) $1\dfrac{2}{5} - \dfrac{3}{4} = \dfrac{5}{20} + \dfrac{8}{20} = \dfrac{13}{20}$

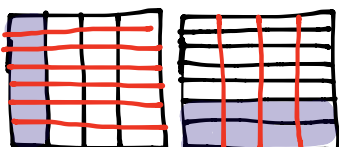$\dfrac{20}{20} \quad \dfrac{8}{20}$

$\dfrac{3}{4}$

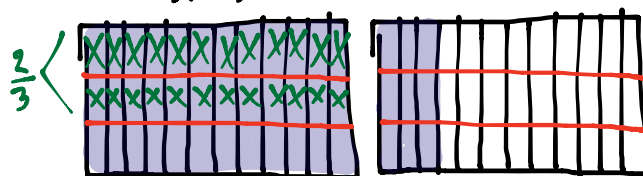f) $1\dfrac{5}{6} - \dfrac{7}{8} = \dfrac{88}{48} - \dfrac{56}{48} = \dfrac{32}{48} = \dfrac{4}{6} = \dfrac{2}{3}$

g) $1\dfrac{2}{7} - \dfrac{3}{4} = \dfrac{1}{4} + \dfrac{2}{7}$

$\dfrac{4}{4} \quad \dfrac{2}{7}$

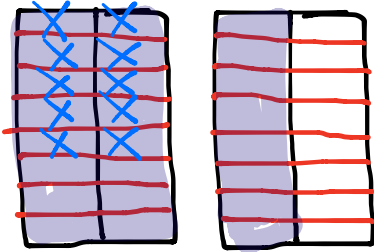$= \dfrac{7}{28} + \dfrac{8}{28} = \dfrac{15}{28}$

h) $1\dfrac{3}{12} - \dfrac{2}{3} = \dfrac{12}{36} + \dfrac{9}{36} = \dfrac{21}{36} = \dfrac{7}{12}$

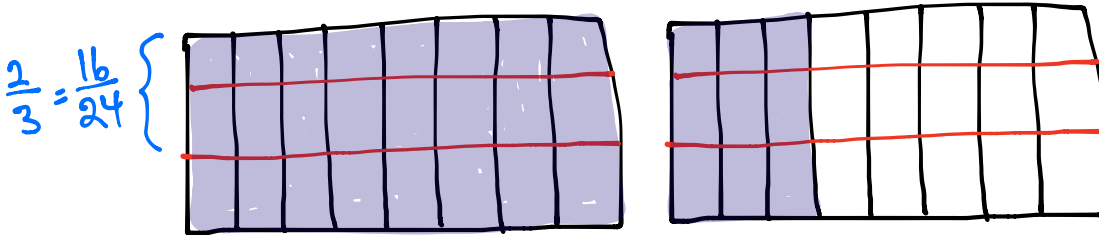$\dfrac{?}{36} \quad \dfrac{9}{36} \quad \dfrac{24}{36}$

$\dfrac{2}{3}$

2. Sam had 1 1/2 m of rope. He cut off 5/8 m and used it for a project. How much rope does Sam have left?

$$1\frac{1}{2} - \frac{5}{8} = \frac{24}{16} - \frac{10}{16} = \frac{14}{16} = \frac{7}{8}$$

Sam has $\frac{7}{8}$ m left over.

3. Jackson had 1 3/8 kg of fertilizer. He used some to fertilize a flower bed andhe only had 2/3 kg left. How much fertilizer was used in the flower bed

$$\frac{2}{3} = \frac{16}{24}$$

$$1\frac{3}{8} - \frac{2}{3} = \frac{8}{24} + \frac{9}{24} = \frac{17}{24}$$

$$\frac{24}{24} + \frac{9}{24} - \frac{16}{24}$$

Jackson used $\frac{17}{24}$ kg of fertilizer in the flower bed.