A worksheet at three levels: adding fractions with unlike denominators

Print the page and cut it into three columns; each student takes one column and works in their notebook. One goal, and the same last question in all three columns.

● Circle	■ Square	▲ Triangle
Worked example: $\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{4}=\frac{2}{4}+\frac{1}{4}=\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}+\frac{2}{5}$	$\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{3}+\frac{1}{4}$
$\frac{1}{3}+\frac{1}{6}$ (use a strip of six parts)	$\frac{3}{4}+\frac{1}{6}$	What fraction, added to $\frac{1}{4}$, makes $\frac{7}{12}$?
$\frac{1}{4}+\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{1}{6}+\frac{1}{3}$, then simplify	A student wrote $\frac{2}{3}+\frac{1}{5}=\frac{3}{8}$. Explain the mistake, then correct it.
$\frac{2}{5}+\frac{3}{10}$	$\frac{5}{6}+\frac{1}{4}$, as a mixed number	A tank is filled to $\frac{1}{3}$ in the morning and another $\frac{2}{5}$ in the afternoon. More than half? How much is left?
$\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{3}$ (hint: the first number in both the 2 and 3 times tables)	A recipe uses $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of milk and $\frac{1}{3}$ cup of water. How many cups of liquid?	Write two fractions with different denominators that add up to $\frac{5}{6}$. Then a second pair.
$\frac{2}{3}+\frac{1}{4}$ (hint: the common denominator is 12)	$\frac{2}{3}+\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{2}{3}+\frac{1}{4}$ — and why can the answer not be $\frac{3}{7}$?

Steps card (circle): 1. Find a number both denominators divide into. 2. Rewrite each fraction with that denominator. 3. Add the numerators; keep the denominator. 4. Simplify if you can.

From the String blog — string.education. Print it, copy it and share it as you like.