

Write  $\frac{4}{12}$  in simplest form by dividing twice.

$$\frac{4}{12} \xrightarrow{\div 2} \frac{2}{6}$$

4 and 12 are both even. Two is a common factor.

$$\frac{2}{6} \xrightarrow{\div 2} \frac{1}{3}$$

2 and 6 are both even. Two is a common factor.

Write  $\frac{4}{12}$  in simplest form by dividing by 4.

$$\frac{4}{12} \xrightarrow{\div 4} \frac{1}{3}$$

In simplest form,  $\frac{4}{12} = \frac{1}{3}$ .

### Problem Solving

34. **Reasoning** If the numerator and the denominator of a fraction are both prime numbers and not equal to each other, can the fraction be simplified?

Use the table at the right for 36 and 37.

36. What fraction of the band members practice for more than 2 hours a week? Write your answer in simplest form.
37. What fraction of the band members spend more time on lessons than on practice? Write your answer in simplest form.

35. **Estimation** About what fraction of this model is red?



Weekly Band Log

Band Member	Lessons (Hours)	Practice (Hours)
Will	1.5	1
Kaitlyn	1	3.5
Madison	0.75	1.75
Ryan	1.5	1.25
Kirk	1.25	4
Gina	1	0.75

38. **Think About the Process** Which of the following helps you find the simplest form of  $\frac{4}{8}$ ?
- A Subtract 4 from 8.
  - B Divide 4 by 8.
  - C Compare fraction strips for fourths and eighths.
  - D Compare fraction strips for eighths and halves.
39. The year 2005 was a record year for panda births. In that year, 16 pandas were born in captivity. If a total of 180 pandas are living in captivity, what fraction of pandas were born in 2005? Write your answer in simplest form.

