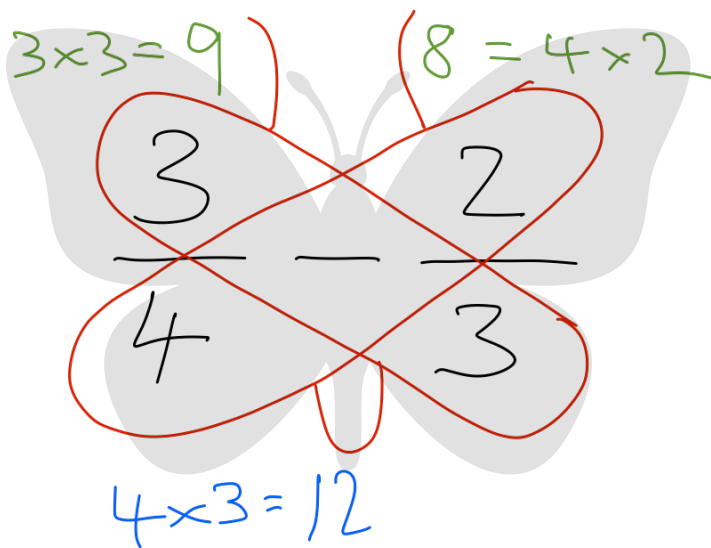# Little Brothers' Studio

Worksheet: Subtracting fractions with different denominators
TRY IT - IT'S EASY :)

Here is our worked example to show you how the SUPER EASY butterfly method can be used to subtract fractions with different denominators.

$$3 \times 3 = 9 \qquad 8 = 4 \times 2$$

$$\frac{3}{4} - \frac{2}{3} \qquad\qquad \frac{9}{12} - \frac{8}{12} = \frac{1}{12}$$

$$4 \times 3 = 12$$

Here is how to work out the answer using the butterfly method.

1. Draw a butterfly around the fractions (shown in Red)
2. Multiply the top left and bottom right (3 x 3 - shown in Green) and write the answer by the left butterfly antennae
3. Multiply the bottom left by the top right (4 x 2 - shown in Green) and write the answer by the right butterfly antennae.
4. Multiply the bottom left and the bottom right (4 x 3 - shown in Blue) and write the answer by the Butterly body at the bottom. This is your common denominator (12).
5. Subtract the right antennae number (8) from the left antennae number (9) which give you and answer of 1 (9 - 8).
6. You now have your answer of 1/12.
7. For other examples you may need to simplify the answer so this step is where to simplify the answer is needed.

We have set some examples for you to try yourself on the next page.

Little Brothers' Studio

Worksheet: Subtracting fractions with different denominators

TRY IT - IT'S EASY :)

Write your answer here ↓

Answer here ↓

① $\dfrac{1}{3} - \dfrac{1}{6} = \dfrac{}{6}$

② $\dfrac{1}{2} - \dfrac{1}{3} = \dfrac{1}{}$

③ $\dfrac{3}{4} - \dfrac{1}{2} = \dfrac{}{}$

④ $\dfrac{5}{6} - \dfrac{1}{3} = \dfrac{}{}$

⑤ $\dfrac{7}{8} - \dfrac{1}{3} = \dfrac{}{}$

⑥ $\dfrac{9}{10} - \dfrac{1}{3} = \dfrac{}{}$

⑦ $\dfrac{8}{12} - \dfrac{5}{11} = \dfrac{}{}$

⑧ $\dfrac{3}{4} - \dfrac{9}{12} = \dfrac{}{}$