

## What is a Ratio?

A **ratio** is a way to compare two or more quantities. It shows how much of one thing there is compared to another thing. You can think of it as a way to compare parts of a whole. For example, if you have 2 apples and 3 oranges, the ratio of apples to oranges is 2 to 3.

## How to Write a Ratio

Ratios can be written in a few different ways:

- Using the word 'to': **2 to 3**
- Using a colon: **2:3**
- As a fraction:  **$\frac{2}{3}$**



## Understanding Ratio Language

When you're talking about ratios, you can use specific language. Here are some examples:

- If you have a ratio of 2:3 for boys to girls in a class, you can say, "For every 2 boys, there are 3 girls." This helps people visualize the relationship.
- Another example: In a fruit salad containing 4 strawberries and 1 banana, you can say the ratio of strawberries to bananas is 4 to 1 (4:1).

## Visualizing Ratios

It can be really useful to visualize ratios to understand them better. Let's say you have a box of crayons with 4 red crayons and 2 blue crayons. You could represent this with a drawing:

- Red Crayons: 
- Blue Crayons: 

This visual can help you see that there are twice as many red crayons as blue crayons, which shows a ratio of 4:2, which can be simplified to 2:1!

## Practice with Ratios

To get good at using ratios, practice by comparing different things:

- Look in your kitchen – compare the number of apples to bananas.
- In a class, find out how many girls and boys are there.

Always remember, ratios help us understand and compare different quantities. The more you practice, the better you will get at using ratio language!