Examples of
IMPROPER FRACTIONS

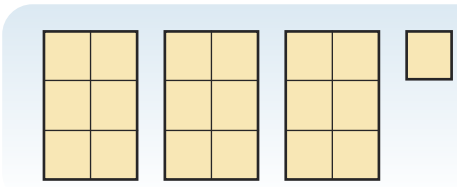
If your child got a homework which said: '**Convert $\frac{19}{6}$ to a mixed number**', would you know what to do?

Don't panic – just follow your steps!

$\frac{19}{6}$ is an **improper fraction** which can be changed to a **mixed number**.

$$6\overline{)19} \quad 3 \text{ REMAINDER } 1$$

1. Divide the top number (19) by the bottom number (6).
   19 divided by 6 gives you 3, with 1 left over.
2. 3 is your whole number.
3. 1 left over is your remainder.
4. 1 becomes the top number in the fraction.
5. The original denominator – 6 – is your bottom number. So, the fraction is 1 over 6, ($\frac{1}{6}$).
6. Put the two numbers together – $3\frac{1}{6}$ is your new mixed number.



$$\frac{19}{6} = 3\frac{1}{6}$$

But the question might be the other way round!

You might have to change a **mixed number** to an **improper fraction**.

It's very similar – just the steps are the other way round.

If you have a mixed number, like $2\frac{5}{8}$, follow these steps:

1. Take the whole number (2) and multiply it by the bottom number in the fraction (here, 8).
2. 2 times 8 equals 16.

Change $2\frac{5}{8}$ to an improper fraction

3. Add this total to the numerator (top number) in your fraction.

4. So 16 plus 5 (the top number in the fraction) equals 21.

5. Put your answer over the original denominator (bottom number.) The original denominator in this example is 8.

6. **Final answer (as an improper fraction) is $\frac{21}{8}$.**

If you break it down into steps, you can't go far wrong.

$$2\frac{5}{8} = \frac{21}{8}$$