

GCF and LCM-(6.NS.4)

Finding Greatest Common Factor (GCF)

√ factors are the numbers we take times another number to get a product

2x3=6 therefore the factors are 2 & 3

- \checkmark GCF is the largest number that divides equally into a set of numbers
- ✓ the GCF will always be a number <u>SMALLER</u> than any of the numbers in the set
- ✓ so the GCF will be FEWER(or the same #) than any of the numbers in the set

Using the upside down birthday cake method works well for this sort of factoring...

We work with the numbers we are factoring in an upside down division problem, seeking the factor that works with all the numbers, therefore, knowing our divisibility rules (and multiplication facts) is necessary. For my students I provide a math mini-office that contains both the divisibility rules and a multiplication table, this teaches then to use their resources and also takes the pressure off them to know things by heart and allows me to access if the skill is understood in a more effective manner.

So, the "cake" looks like this...

We have a series of questions we ask ourselves about divisibility to find the factors.

- ✓ are they even (use 2)
- ✓ do the end in 5 or 10 (use 5 or 10)
 and so on...

We know our "cake" is finished when our "candles" no longer have any factors in common other than 1

At this point, we have factored out all that we can because 1 and 2 share no factor other than 1....

Now comes the birthday magic, we multiply our "roses" on the outside of our cake to determine our GCF













































