Name _____

Subtraction with Unlike Denominators

COMMON CORE STANDARD—5.NF.A.2
Use equivalent fractions as a strategy to add and subtract fractions.

Use fraction strips to find the difference. Write your answer in simplest form.

1. $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3}$

$\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} = \frac{3}{6} - \frac{2}{6} - \frac{1}{6}$

$\frac{1}{6}$

2. $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{3}{8}$

3. $\frac{7}{8} - \frac{1}{2}$

4. $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{5}$

5. $\frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{4}$

6. $\frac{4}{5} - \frac{1}{2}$

7. $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{3}$

8. $\frac{5}{8} - \frac{1}{2}$

9. $\frac{7}{10} - \frac{1}{2}$

Problem Solving Real World

10. Amber had $\frac{3}{8}$ of a cake left after her party. She wrapped a piece that was $\frac{1}{4}$ of the original cake for her best friend. What fractional part did she have left for herself?

11. Wesley bought $\frac{1}{2}$ pound of nails for a project. When he finished the project, he had $\frac{1}{4}$ pound of nails left. How many pounds of nails did he use?

12. WRITE Math Explain how modeling subtraction with fraction strips is different from modeling addition with fraction strips.