LESSON 3-4

Reading Strategies

Focus on Vocabulary

The word **reciprocal** means an exchange. When two friends exchange gifts, you might think of the gifts as "switching places." In the reciprocal of a fraction, the numerator and denominator exchange places.

Fraction	Reciprocal
$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{3}{2}$
$\frac{4}{5}$	$\frac{5}{4}$
$\frac{8}{1}$	$\frac{1}{8}$

1. What does the word *reciprocal* mean? an exchange

2. What is the reciprocal of $\frac{7}{8}$? $\frac{8}{7}$

3. What is the reciprocal of $\frac{6}{5}$? $\frac{5}{6}$

The product of a fraction and its reciprocal is always 1.

Fraction • Reciprocal = Product

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

$\frac{4}{5} \cdot \frac{5}{4} = \frac{20}{20} = 1$

$\frac{1}{8} \cdot \frac{8}{1} = \frac{8}{8} = 1$

4. What is the product of $\frac{1}{7} \cdot \frac{7}{1}$? $\frac{7}{7}$, or 1

5. What is the product of $\frac{2}{6}$ and its reciprocal? 1

6. What is the reciprocal of $\frac{1}{2}$? $\frac{2}{1}$, or 2

7. What is the product of $\frac{1}{2} \times 2$? 1

Copyright © by Holt, Rinehart and Winston.
All rights reserved.