e-Notebook

Fraction Operations

Name:_____

Mia and Julie were baking brownies for a school fundraiser. They wanted a lot of brownies, so they decided to make 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ batches.

Here is part of the recipe to make 1 batch:

$\frac{2}{3}$ cup of butter
2 cups of brown sugar
2 $\frac{3}{4}$ cups flour
6 oz chocolate chips

When it was time to add the butter, Mia said, "I know we have to multiply 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{2}{3}$. Since we are multiplying, we will need more than 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups of butter, since numbers always get bigger when they are multiplied."

Do you agree or disagree with Mia? Explain why. Then figure out how much she needs.

When it was time to add the flour, Julie said, "I know we have to multiply 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 $\frac{3}{4}$, but I don't know how much that is. I know that when you multiply whole numbers, the product usually gets bigger. But when you multiply fractions, the product is usually smaller."

When Julie multiplies 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 $\frac{3}{4}$, will the product be larger or smaller than the two numbers? Explain why. Then figure out how much she needs.