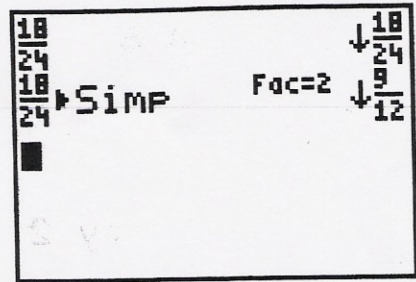


5. Press **SIMP** **ENTER**. The calculator displays the new fraction and the lowest prime factor of the numerator and denominator. Record this factor on the recording sheet under **Prime Factors**.



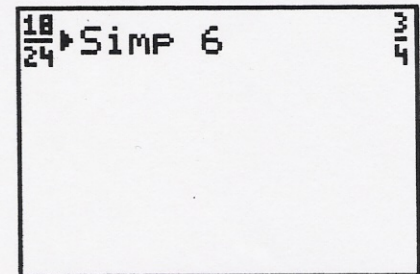
Discuss what the second line on the calculator screen means. (Divide by 2.) On the back of the Student Activity sheet, have the students write the arithmetic used to get the simplified fraction. For example, in the window at the right,

$\frac{18}{24}$  **Simp** **Fac=2** would be written as

$$\frac{18 \div 2}{24 \div 2} = \frac{9}{12}. \text{ Since we are dividing by 2 (a common factor), } \frac{18}{24} = \frac{9}{12}.$$

Continue discussing other lines of simplification.

6. Repeat the **SIMP**, **ENTER**, record process until the fraction is completely simplified. (The arrow will disappear.)



Review what a greatest common factor is. (The largest factor that the numerator and denominator have in common.) Guide students to discover that 6 (or  $2 \times 3$ ) is the greatest common factor of  $\frac{18}{24}$ . Have them record this under **GCF** on the Student Activity sheet. To verify that the original fraction can be simplified using the GCF of 6, enter 18 **÷** 24 **SIMP** 6 **ENTER**.