**Common Factors – Answer Key**

**Date: Name:**

**What is a common factor?**

 **Common factors are factors that are the same between two different numbers that are being compared.**

**What is a “greatest common factor?”**

**A greatest common factor is the largest factor that divides perfectly into two or more numbers.**

**Here are examples of how to use a Venn diagram to visually display the common and uncommon factors when comparing two different numbers.**

**Example #1- Comparing 8 and 12**

The common factors of 8 and 12 are 1, 2, and 4. The greatest (largest) common factor is 4.

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**8**

**1 x 8**

**2 x 4**

**12**

**1 x 12**

**2 x 6**

**3 x 4**

**Example #2- Comparing 36 and 12**

The common factors of 36 and 12 are 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 12. The greatest (largest) common factor is 12.

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**36**

**1 x 36**

**2 x 18**

**3 x 12**

**4 x 9**

**12**

**1 x 12**

**2 x 6**

**3 x 4**