Simple Addition of Fractions

Adding fractions is not as easy as adding up the numerators and denominators! The rules are:

1) make sure that the denominators are the same
2) only add the numerators together

E.g. $\frac{1}{7} + \frac{3}{14}$

In this example, the numbers on the bottom are 7 and 14. We have to think of a multiple of 7 and 14 (a number that both 7 and 14 will go into). The smallest one is 14 (14 x 1 = 14, 7 x 2 = 14). This means we need to change the 7 to a 14, so times by 2. REMEMBER though that whatever you do to the bottom you must do to the top! So our fraction changes from $\frac{1}{7}$ to $\frac{2}{14}$

Reminder: Only add the numerators together!

$\frac{2}{14} + \frac{3}{14} = \frac{5}{14}$

Now it's your turn!

1) $\frac{4}{9} + \frac{2}{18}$

2) $\frac{1}{9} + \frac{2}{3}$

3) $\frac{7}{20} + \frac{1}{5}$

4) $\frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{2}$

5) $\frac{2}{4} + \frac{1}{3}$

Handy hint: Sometimes, you might need to SIMPLIFY your answer if both the numerator and denominator can be divided by the same number. (See "Simplifying Fractions" Worksheet)