

PATTERN BLOCKS

Fractions – Using Pattern Blocks

A **fraction** is a PART of a WHOLE of something.

Here's an example:

If your brother eats 5 out of the 8 pieces of pizza, you can say he ate $\frac{5}{8}$ of the pizza.

5 = the number of pieces of pizza your brother ate

8 = the TOTAL number of pieces of pizza

Note: *Fractions need to consist of EQUAL pieces, parts, or sections.*

You can use PATTERN BLOCKS to help learn about fractions.

Common c



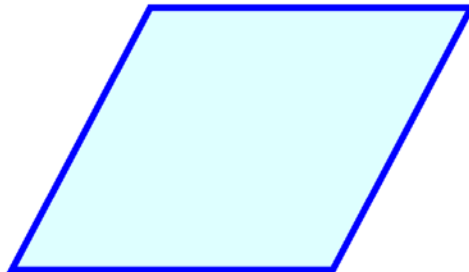
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Triangle



Rhombus



Trapezoid



Hexagon



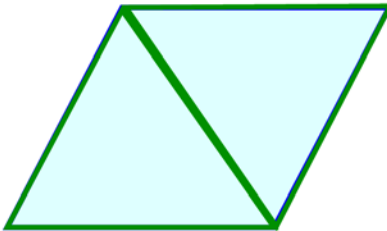
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Fraction

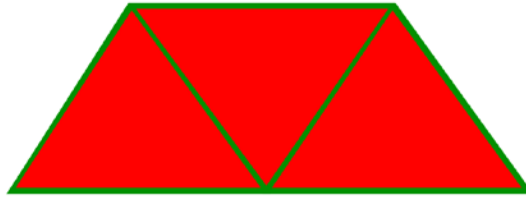
ONE rhombus = TWO triangles



So one triangle = $\frac{1}{2}$ of a rhombus

Two triangles = 1 WHOLE rhombus

ONE trapezoid = THREE triangles



So one triangle = $\frac{1}{3}$ of a trapezoid

Two triangles = $\frac{2}{3}$ of a trapezoid

Three triangles = 1 WHOLE trapezoid



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ONE hexagon = SIX triangles

So one triangle = $\frac{1}{6}$ of a hexagon

Two triangles = $\frac{2}{6}$ or $\frac{1}{3}$ of a hexagon

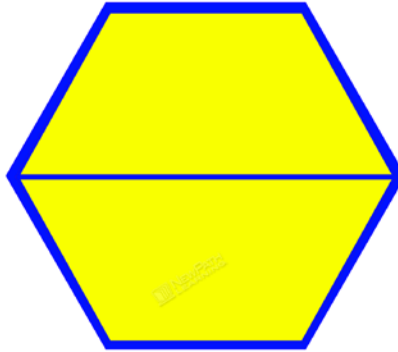
Three triangles = $\frac{3}{6}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ of a hexagon

Four triangles = $\frac{4}{6}$ or $\frac{2}{3}$ of a hexagon

Five triangles = $\frac{5}{6}$ of a hexagon

Six triangles = 1 WHOLE hexagon

ONE hexagon also = TWO trapezoids



So one trapezoid = $\frac{1}{2}$ of a hexagon

Two trapezoids = 1 WHOLE hexagon

ONE hexagon also = THREE rhombuses



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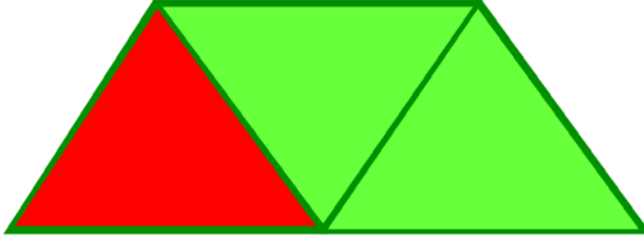
So one rhombus = $\frac{1}{3}$ of a hexagon

Two rhombuses = $\frac{2}{3}$ of a hexagon

Three rhombuses = 1 WHOLE hexagon

Let's Practice:

The green triangles are what fraction of the whole trapezoid?



- a] $1/2$
- b] $2/3$
- c] $2/5$
- d] $1/3$

Answer: b] $2/3$

1 trapezo
trapezoid

2/3 of a



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