

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 5/8 of the pizza.

 $\underline{\mathbf{5}}$ = the number of pieces of pizza your brother ate

8 = the TOTAL number of pieces of pizza



Rhombus





Trapezoid



Hexagon

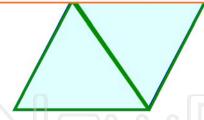


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So one triangle = 1/2 of a rhombus

Two triangles = 1 WHOLE rhombus



ONE trapezoid = THREE triangles



So one triangle = 1/3 of a trapezoid

Two triangles = 2/3 of a trapezoid

Three triangles = 1 WHOLE trapezoid



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So one triangle = 1/6 of a hexagon

Two triangles = 2/6 or 1/3 of a hexagon

Three triangles = 3/6 or 1/2 of a hexagon

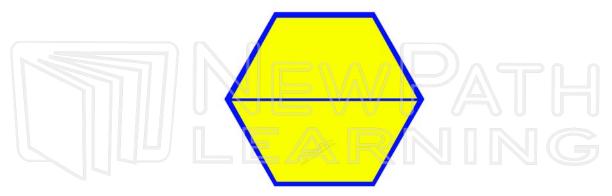
Four triangles = 4/6 or 2/3 of a hexagon

Five triangles = 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

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So one rhombus = 1/3 of a hexagon

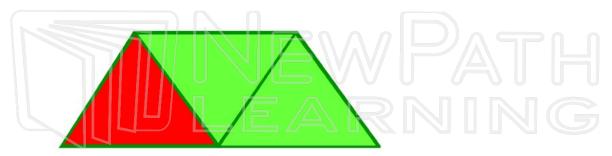
Two rhombuses = 2/3 of a hexagon

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



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