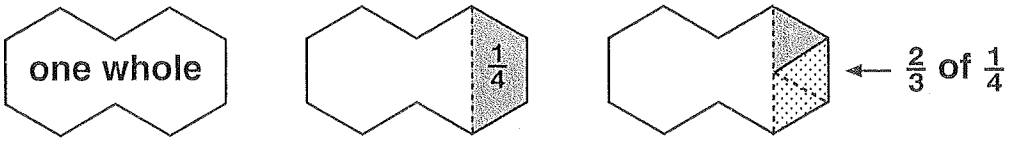
Activity 8: Multiplying Fractions

PURPOSE Develop an algorithm for multiplying fractions.

MATERIALS Pattern Blocks (pages A-7 to A-11) and paper for folding

GROUPING Work individually.

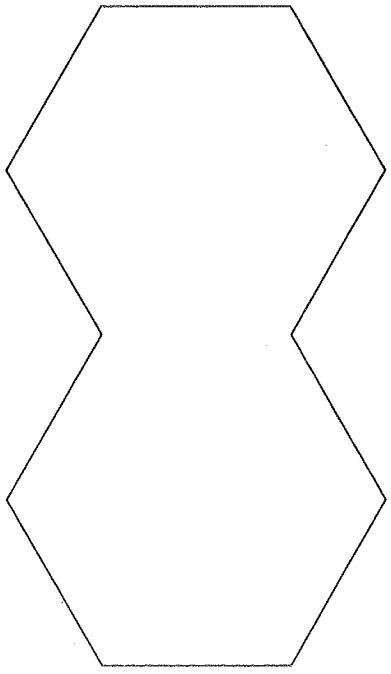
Example: $\frac{2}{3}$ of $\frac{1}{4}$ means two of three equal parts of $\frac{1}{4}$.



$$\frac{2}{3} \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{2}{12} = \frac{1}{6}$$

Place pattern blocks on Figure A to solve the following. Record your solution both pictorially and numerically.

Figure A



1. $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3} =$

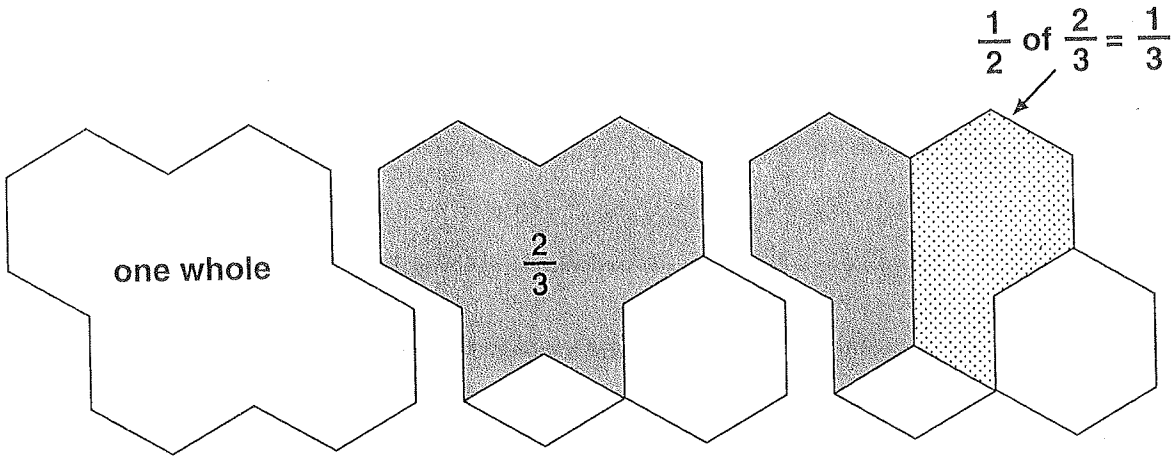
2. $\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{3} =$

3. $\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{3} =$

4. $\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{2}{3} =$

5. $\frac{5}{6} \times \frac{1}{2} =$

Example: $\frac{1}{2}$ of $\frac{2}{3}$ means one of the two equal parts of two thirds.



Use four hexagons to construct a figure similar to the one shown above, and solve the following. Record each step of your solutions both pictorially and numerically.

1. $\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{1}{6} =$

2. $\frac{3}{8} \times \frac{2}{3} =$

3. $\frac{7}{12} \times \frac{1}{2} =$

4. $\frac{5}{8} \times \frac{1}{3} =$