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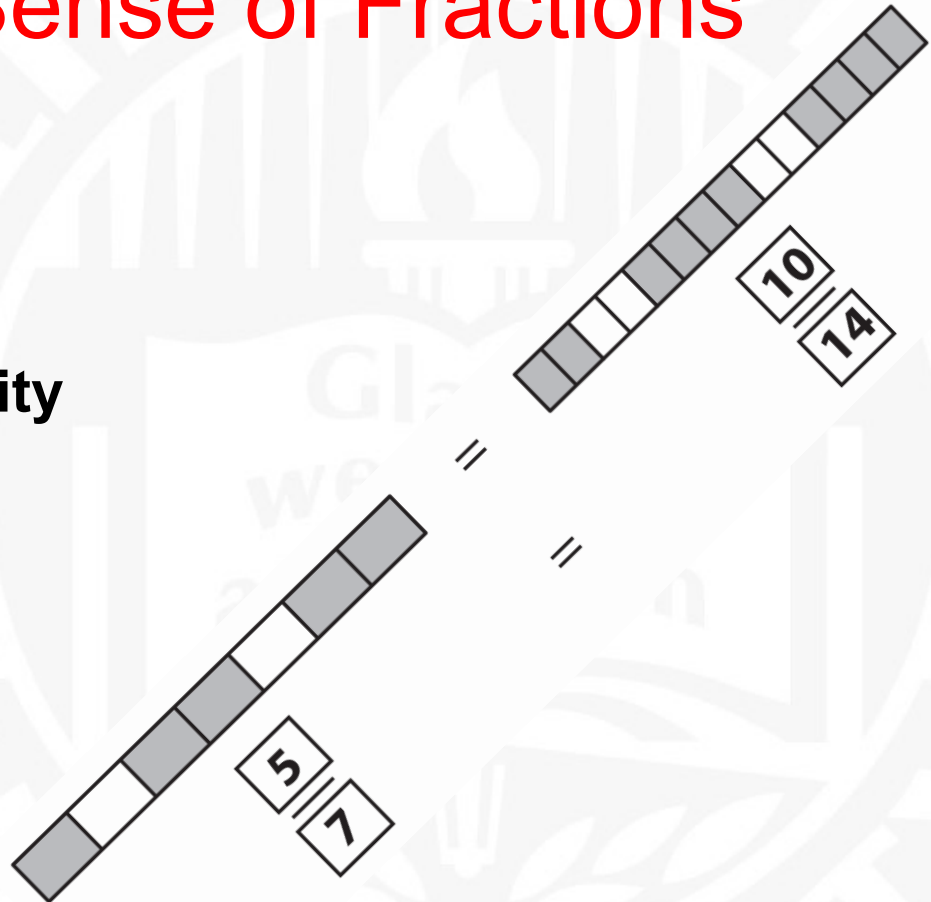
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Making Sense of Fractions

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ICTM Southern Sectional
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Funding Acknowledgement

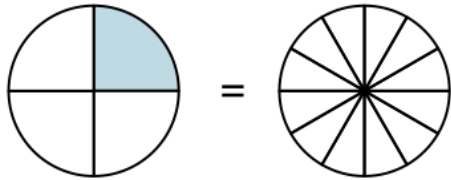
- Work on this projects was supported by the National Science Foundation under **Grant No. DRL DRL-1222944**. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the funding agencies.

My Go to For Fractions

Shade in the visual fraction to find the equivalent fraction.

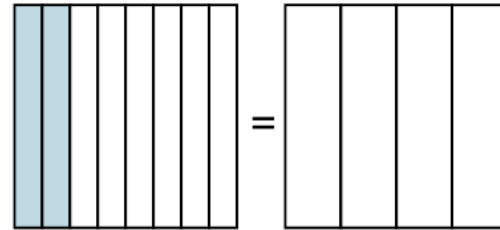
Ex)

$$\frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{12}$$



1)

$$\frac{2}{8} =$$



$$\frac{5}{7}$$

=



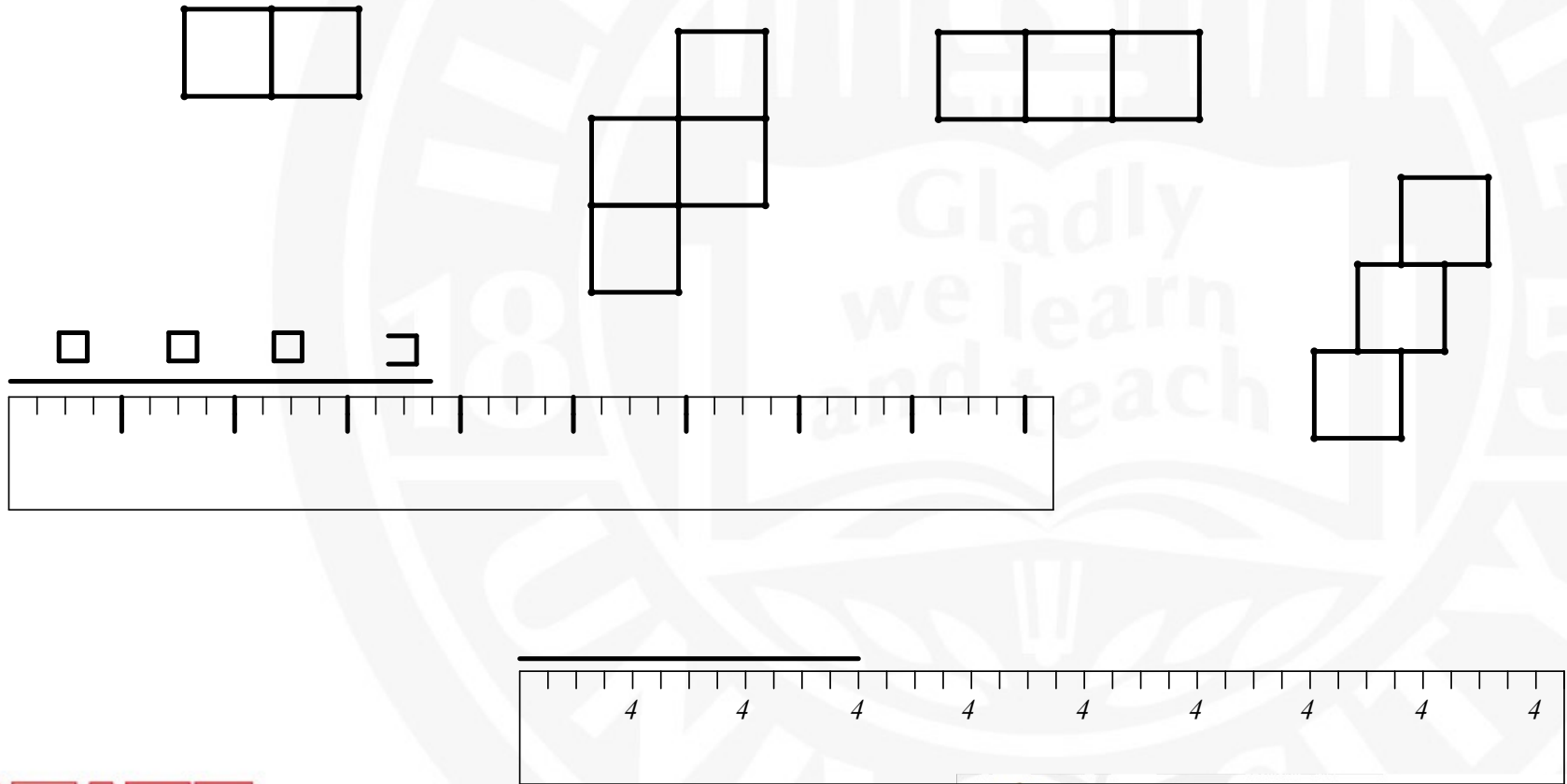
$$\frac{10}{14}$$

=

My Go To Fails Me!

- CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.3.NF.A.2
 - Understand a fraction as a number on the number line; represent fractions on a number line diagram.

Out of my Comfort Zone



Wraps and Sides

- Get a handful of squares, and a few pipe cleaners.
 - Make a wrap (w)
 - A half wrap (h)

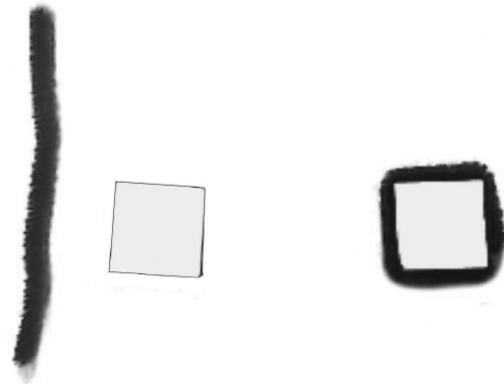
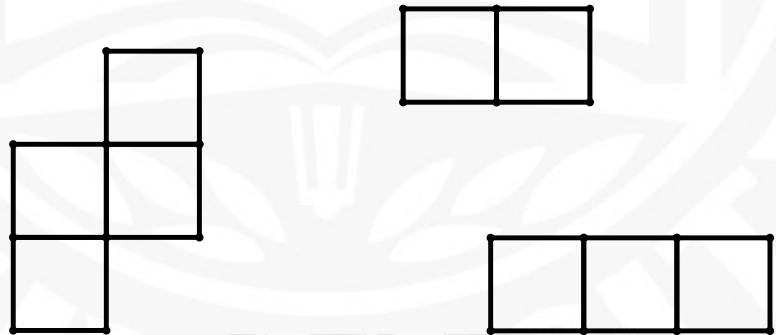


Fig. 4.7. Wrapping a 4-inch section of pipe cleaner around a square-inch tile

Start Measuring

- Create the three shapes below, one at a time, and measure the perimeter of each in
 - sides (s),
 - half wraps (h),
 - a combination of wraps (w) and half wraps (h) or sides (s).

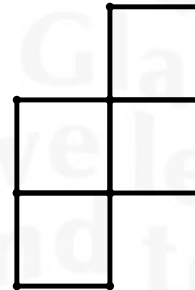


What's the measure? What's the Unit?

- $6s = 3h = 1w$ and $1h$



- $10s = 5h = 2w$ and $1h$



- $8s = 4h = 2w$

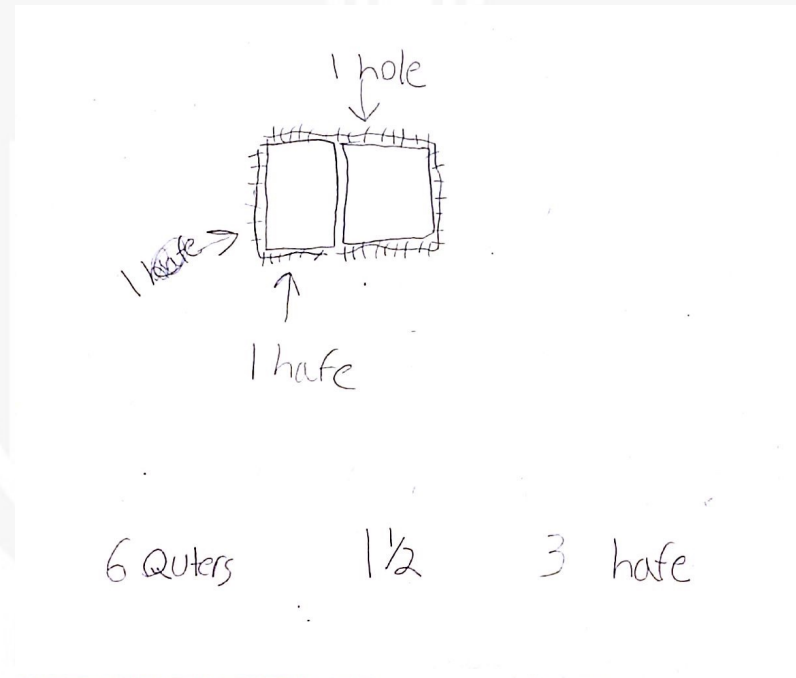


Drew: Third Grader



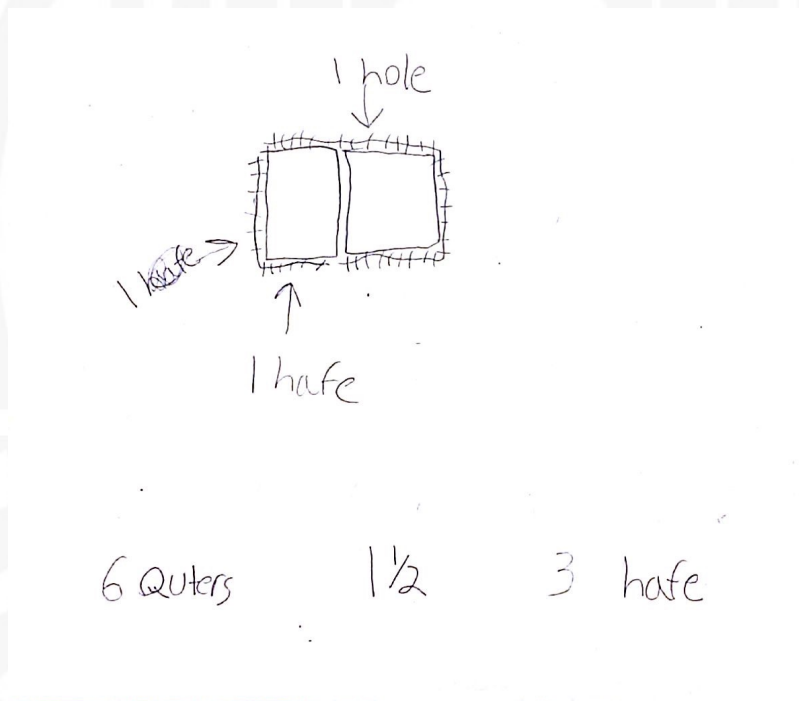
Drew's Thinking

- Drew spontaneously started using the language of halves and quarters and coordinated among the different units.



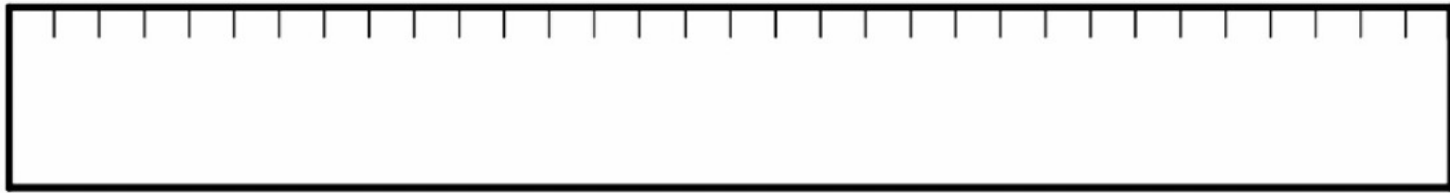
Measures and Units and Equivalent Fractions

- How does Drew's drawing convey equivalent fractions?



Transition to the Ruler

- Wraps and sides ruler
 - Imagine a smaller wrap that is 1-inch long

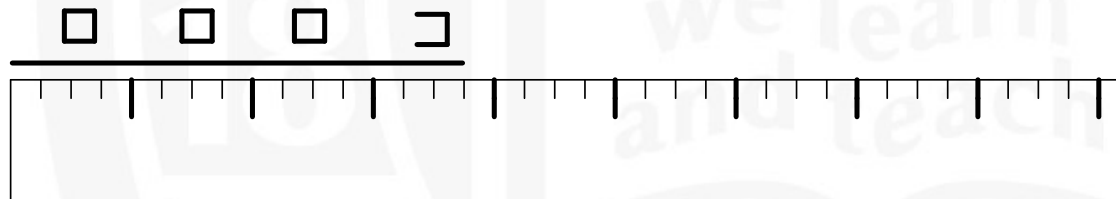
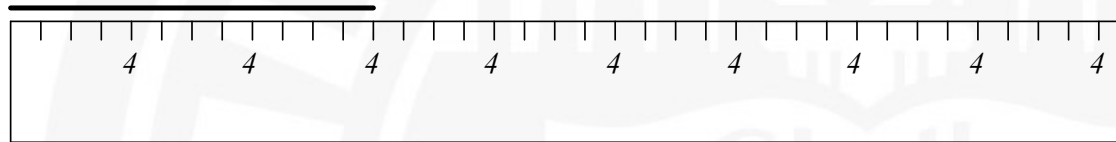


Transition to the Ruler

- CCSS.M ATH.CONTENT.3.NF.A.2
 - Understand a fraction as a number on the number line; represent fractions on a number line diagram.
- Identify a length along the number line and report its **measure** and the **unit** used. (HANDOUT)

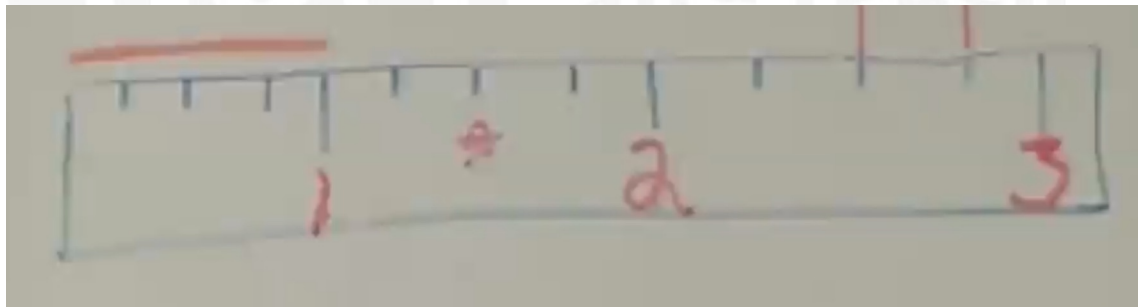


Student Ruler Modifications



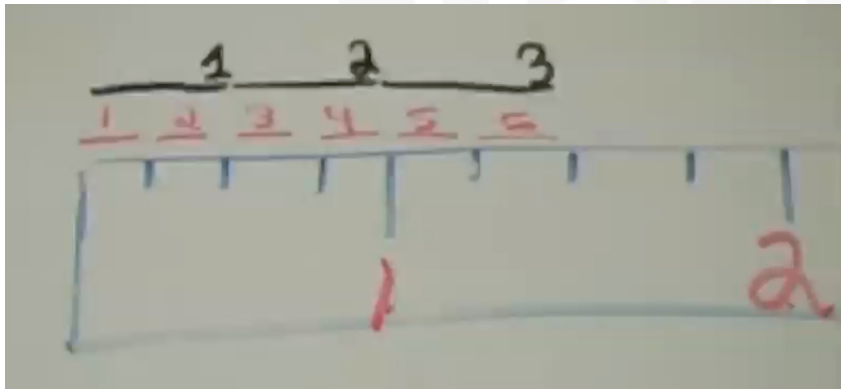
The Payoff

- CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.3.NF.A.2
 - Understand a fraction as a number on the number line; represent fractions on a number line diagram.



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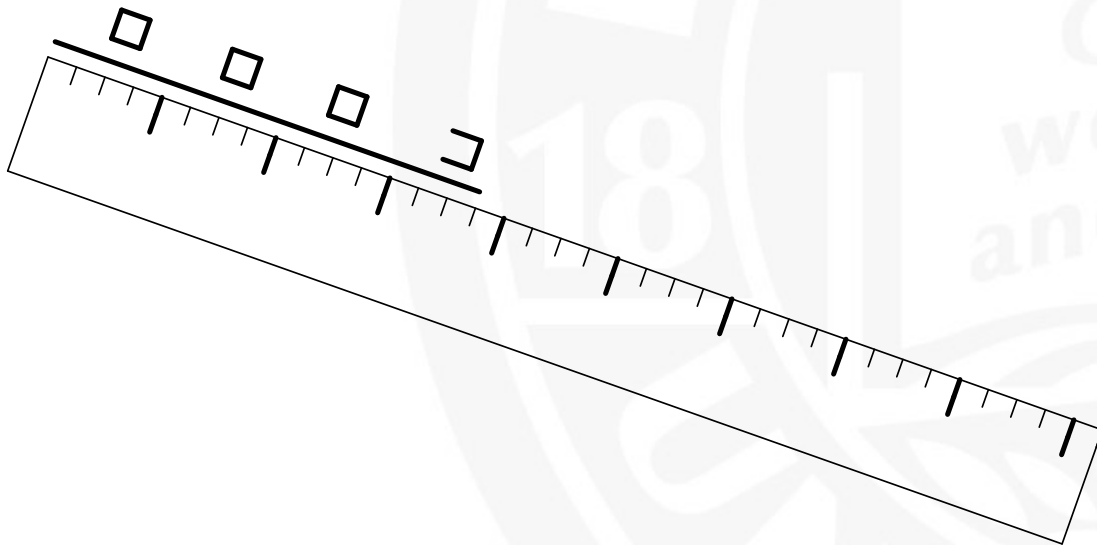


That location on the number line measures 3 if your unit is halves.

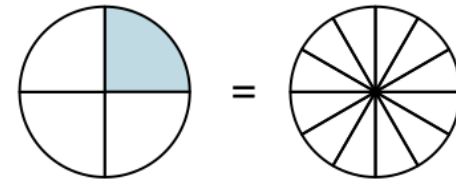
That location on the number line measures 6 if your unit is quarters.

Compare the Models

- How is using length measurement different than the area model?



$$\frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{12}$$

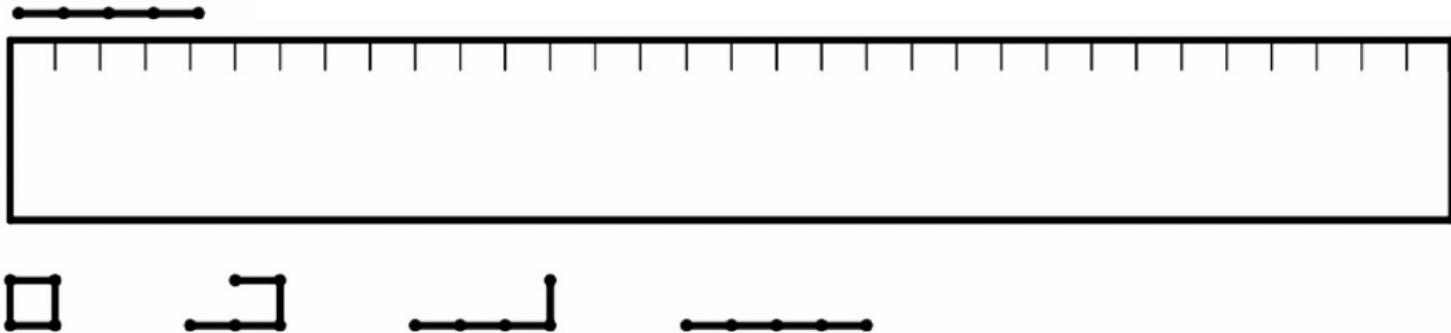


My Reflection

- The shifting between units is more natural
 - A side and a wrap are each reasonable things to call 1.
 - For an area model the other 1s are a “fractional” part of something else rather than a different object.

My Reflection

- The coordination of units is visual
 - I can see that $4s = 1w$.



My Reflection

- The transition to a unit fraction is supported (a measure and a unit).
 - $6s = 6 \text{ quarters} = 6\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) = \frac{6}{4}$

Grade 3

Develop understanding of fractions as numbers.

CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.3.NF.A.1

Understand a fraction $1/b$ as the quantity formed by 1 part when a whole is partitioned into b equal parts; understand a fraction a/b as the quantity formed by a parts of size $1/b$.

Thank you!

Questions/Comments/Reactions?

- Craig Cullen (cjculle@ilstu.edu)