Name _____ Date _____

Division of Unit Fractions and Whole Numbers - Guided Lesson Explanation

Explanation#1

Step 1) First we look to see what is being asked of us.

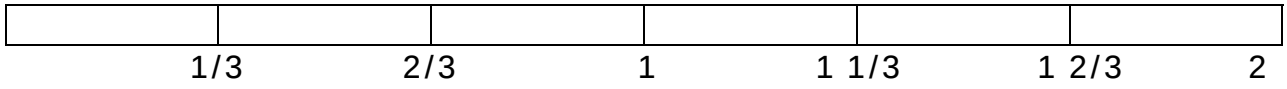
"How many 1/3-scoop servings are in 2 bowls of ice cream?"

Step 2) Mixed numbers and whole numbers are written as improper fractions.

Step 3) There are a number of ways to do this. We could divide 2 by 1/3.

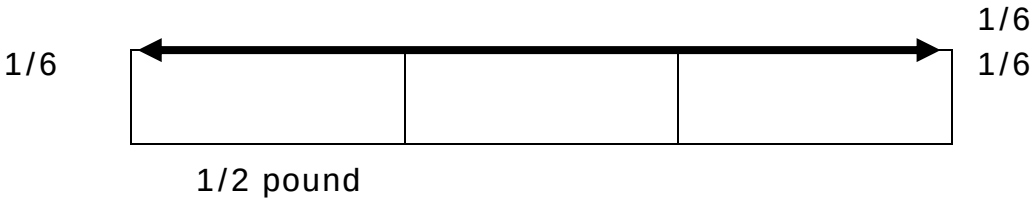
$$2 \div \frac{1}{3} = \frac{2}{1} \div \frac{1}{3} = \frac{2}{1} \times \frac{3}{1} = 6$$

Step 4) Since it is a relatively small number, we could do it visual by adding 1/3s.



Explanation#2

If all his 3 friends shared a wafer biscuit that is ½ pound, it would look like this.



3 x 1/6 = 3/6 or ½

So the answer is 1/6 of a pound.

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Explanation#3

Step 1) First we look to see what is being asked of us.

“How much dry fruit did each relative get?”

Step 2) Mixed numbers and whole numbers are written as improper fractions.

Step 3) We have to divide the total amount of dry fruit by the number of relative.

$$\frac{1}{2} \div 3 = ?$$

We will write 3 as an improper fraction.

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

Now turn this from a division problem into a multiplication problem by multiplying by the reciprocal.

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

Now we will multiply:

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

Each relative got 1/6 of a pound of dry fruit.