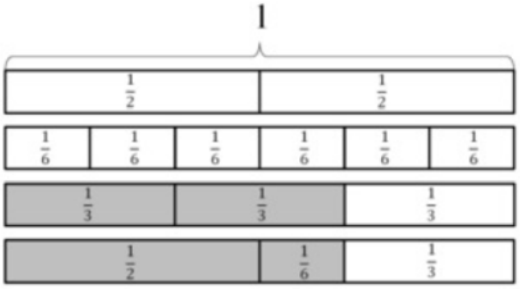
Name:

Activity

Egyptian Fractions

Ancient Egyptians used unit fractions (such as $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$), to represent all fractions. For example, they might write the number $\frac{2}{3}$ as $\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{6}$.



We often think of $\frac{2}{3}$ as $\frac{1}{3}+\frac{1}{3}$, but the ancient Egyptians would not write it this way because they didn't use the same unit fraction twice.

1. How might the ancient Egyptians have written the fraction we write as $\frac{3}{4}$?

Write each Egyptian fraction as a single fraction:

2. $\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{3}$

3. $\frac{1}{2}+\frac{1}{3}+\frac{1}{5}$

4. $\frac{1}{4}+\frac{1}{5}+\frac{1}{12}$