

### Sec. 3.2 Using Models to Multiply Fractions

#### 1. Fraction of a fraction

What does it mean to take a fraction of a fraction?

- When you are taking a fractional amount of something, it's like you're taking less than one group of something. It is like multiplication.

For example:

If 3 groups of 4 means  $3 \times 4$ ,

and 1 group of 4 means  $1 \times 4$

then,  $\frac{1}{5}$  of 4 means  $\frac{1}{5} \times 4$

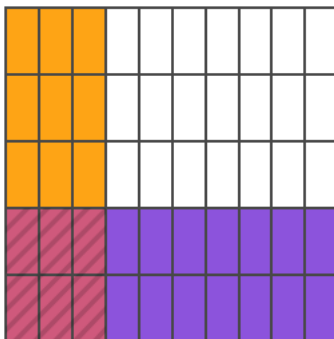
and  $\frac{1}{4}$  of  $\frac{2}{3}$  means  $\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{2}{3}$

#### **2. How to Model Fraction x Fraction ( $\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{2}{3}$ )**

- 1) Draw a rectangle.
- 2) Break into denominator parts of 2<sup>nd</sup> fraction horizontally
- 3) Shade numerator parts using 2<sup>nd</sup> fraction
- 4) Break into denominator parts of 1<sup>st</sup> fraction vertically
- 5) Double shade numerator parts using 1<sup>st</sup> fraction
- 6) Compare double shaded to whole. This is the answer.

#### **Practice!**

- 1) Write the multiplication equation represented by the following diagram.



- 2) Use a model to represent the multiplication of  $\frac{2}{5} \times \frac{3}{4}$

- 3) One-third of Ms. Lo's grade 8 students went to Dairy Queen to get a hot fudge sundae. Three-quarter of these students also decided to buy some fries.
- a) Write the multiplication statement for this situation.
- b) What fraction of Ms. Lo's students had a hot fudge sundae and fries? Model the solution with a diagram.