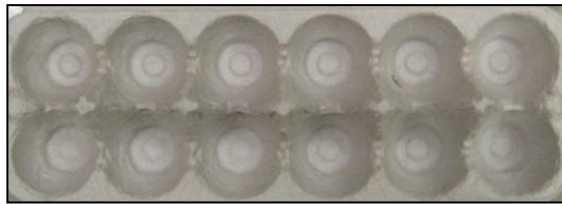# Fussing with Fractions: Egg Cartons
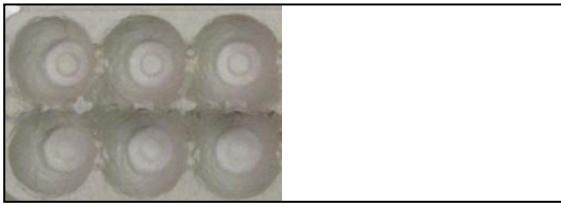
Let's take a look at $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}$ again, this time with egg cartons

Here's our unit—one whole egg carton:

We'll call that $1$
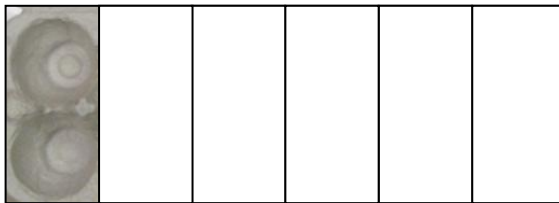
$\frac{1}{2}$ of that carton looks like

or

$\frac{1}{3}$ looks like
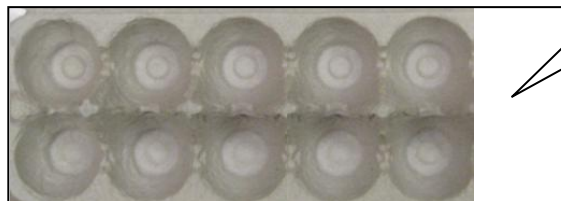
$\frac{1}{4}$ looks like
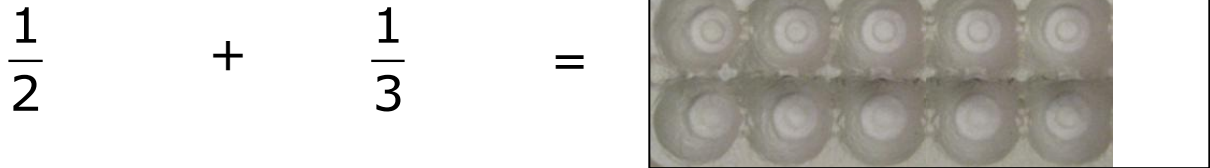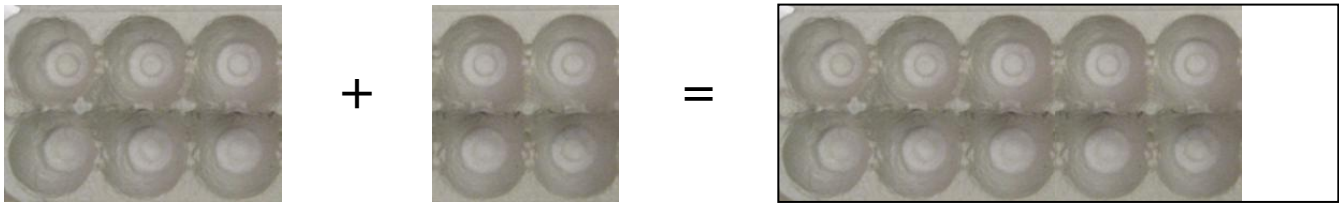
$\frac{1}{6}$ would be

or

So $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}$ would be almost a whole egg carton:

$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}$ only needs this much more to be a whole egg carton.

Looked at another way…

 +  = 

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

$$\frac{6}{12} + \frac{4}{12} = \frac{10}{12}$$

$$\frac{3}{6} + \frac{2}{6} = \frac{5}{6}$$

because

and

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

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

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} = \frac{5}{6} = \frac{10}{12} = $$ 

*revised 11/13/2008*