

# **Maths Materials for the Maths Classroom**

**Wednesday 10th March 2021 6pm  
Simon Gregg**

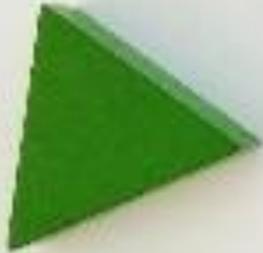
Teacher and STEAM coach at the  
International School of Toulouse, France

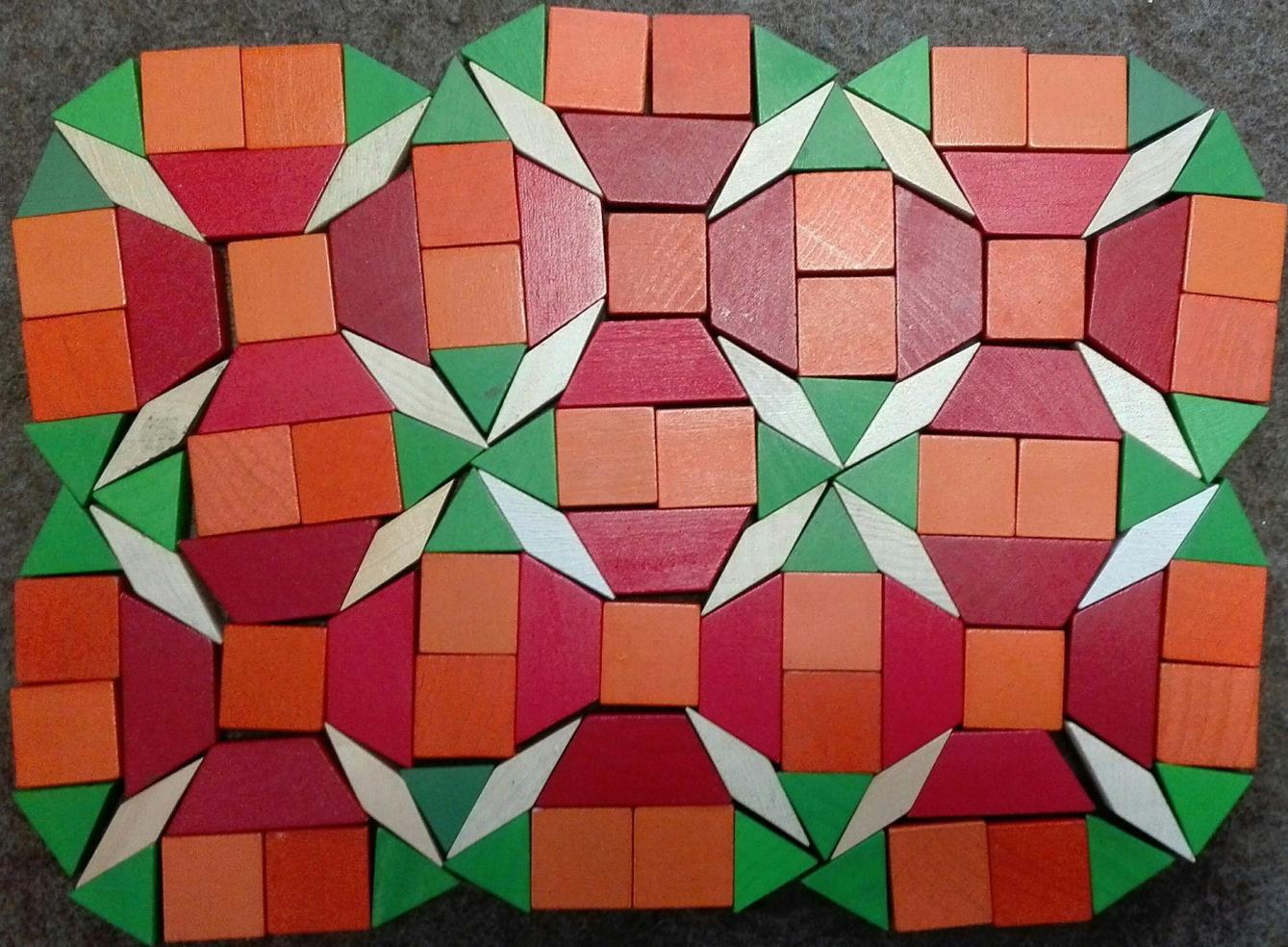
[Twitter](#): @Simon\_Gregg

[Blog](#): [followinglearning.blogspot.com](http://followinglearning.blogspot.com)

# Pattern blocks

[bc](#)

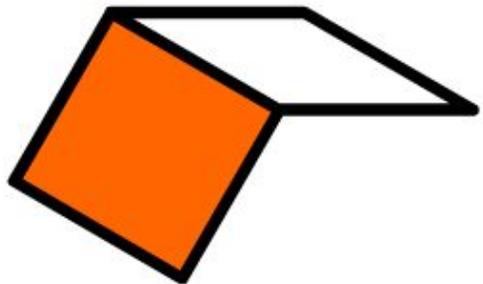




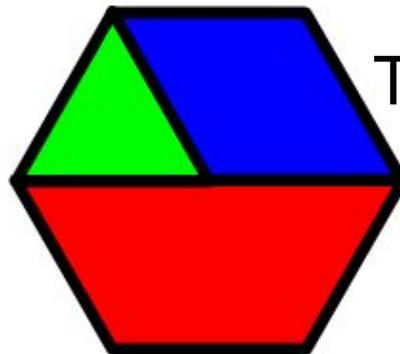
# Make a hexagon with 2 pattern blocks

[Virtual pattern blocks](#)

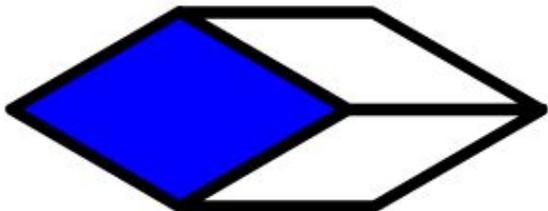
Top left



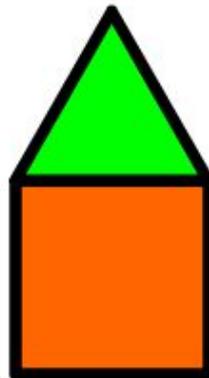
TR



BL

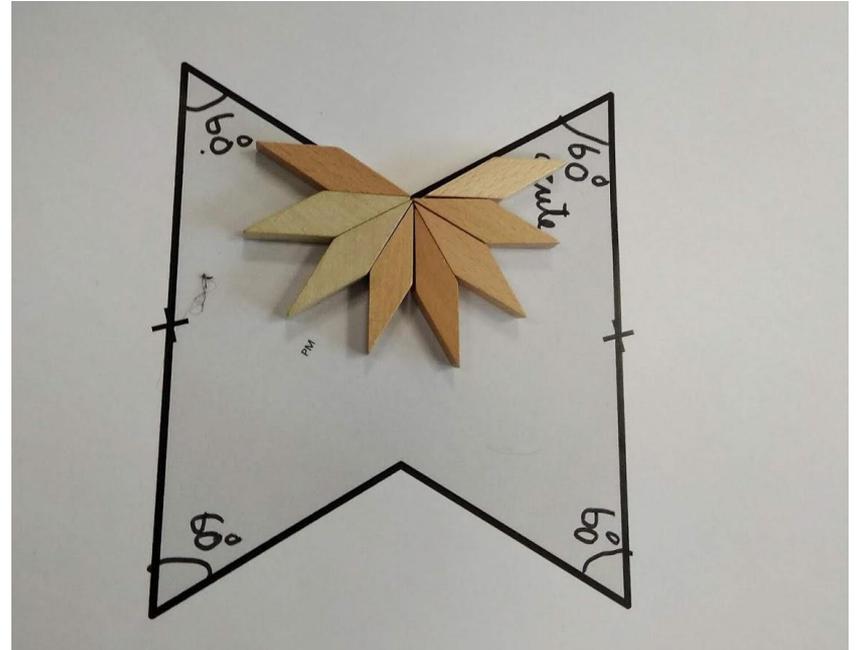


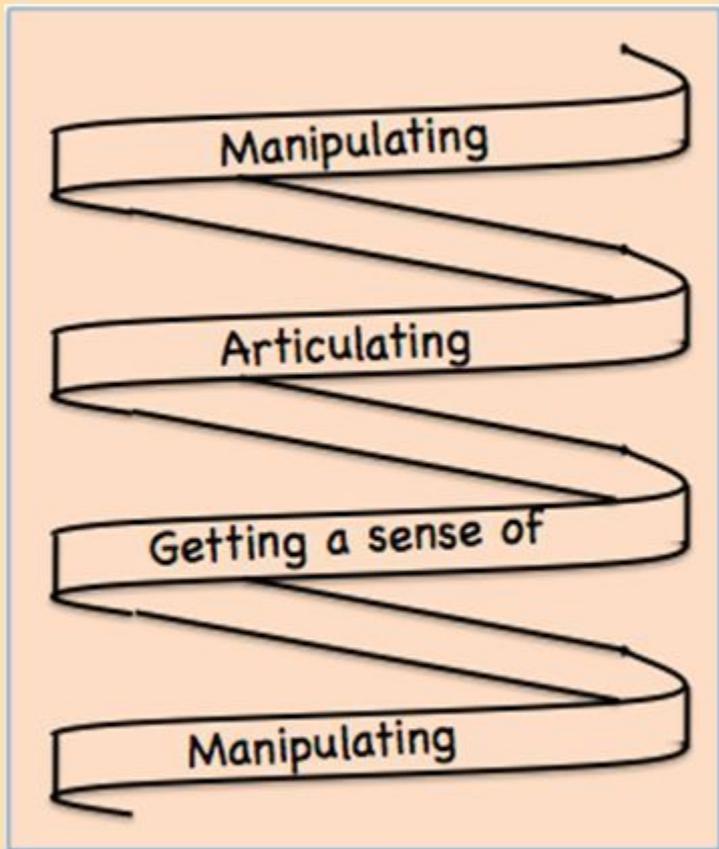
Bottom right



# Pattern blocks - make a hexagon with 2 blocks

<http://followinglearning.blogspot.com/2018/11/hexagons.html>





- ⇒ Manipulating familiar confidence inspiring objects (specialising, particularising)
- ⇒ In order to get a sense of underlying structural relationships (modelling, axiomatising, justifying, proving ...)
- ⇒ Bringing this experience to articulation, which over time, becomes more succinct and useable (manipulable)

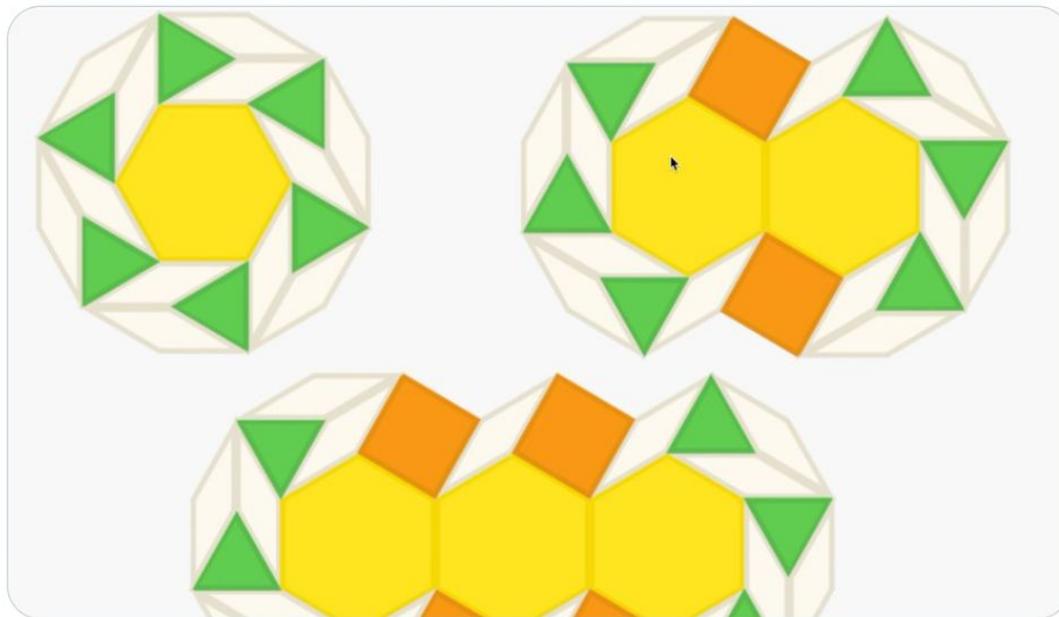
[Jim Noble, my secondary colleague, tweeted:](#)



**Jim Noble** @teachmaths · May 14, 2020



Sooo much to think about when making sequences with [#patternblocks](#)  
[@Simon\\_Gregg](#) has been telling me for ages, but I just needed to take the time to play and let students play...



4

8

30

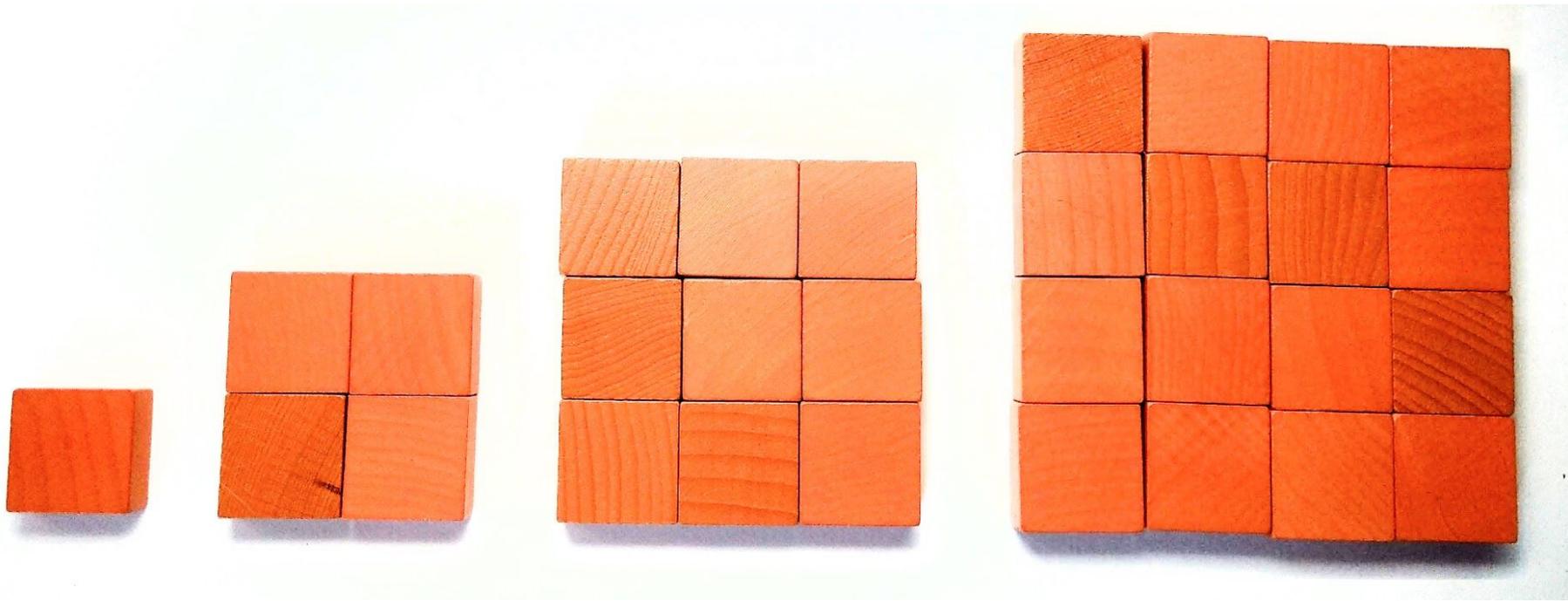


A pattern with pattern blocks

This is written up in [Mathematics Teaching 272](#).



# Square numbers



# SQUARE

numbers up to 4 all orange  
an evolution growing pattern  
AK 18.3.19

IMP arrays  
AT add

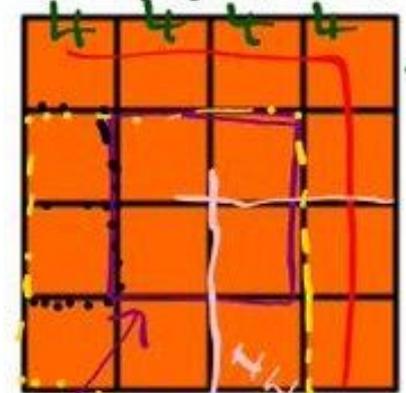
Parallel lines  
AT odd  
ED

all symmetrical  
AT

2x2 even

3x3 odd

3x3



DA even  
DC

even has + in middle

APP LP

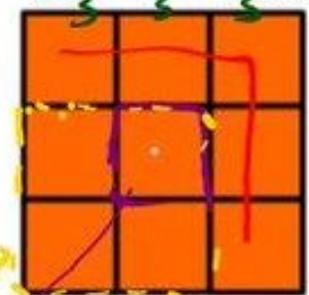
a type of spiral CM



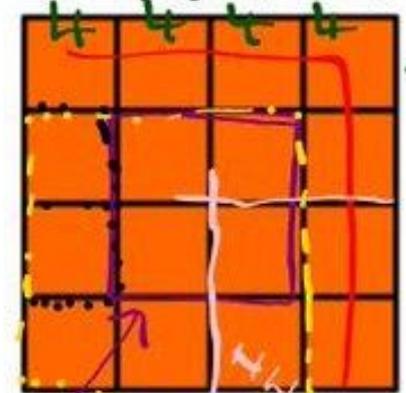
1x1



2x2

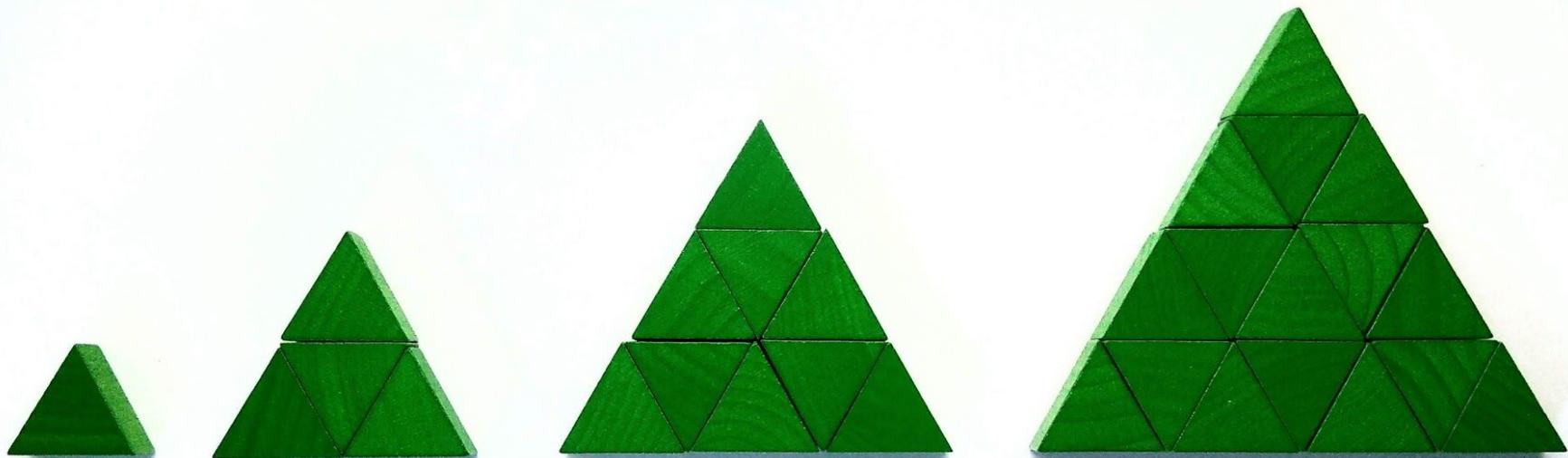


3x3

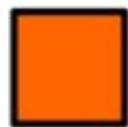


4x4

More square numbers!



CT's way:



1

+3



$$1 + 3 = 4$$

+2

PM

+5



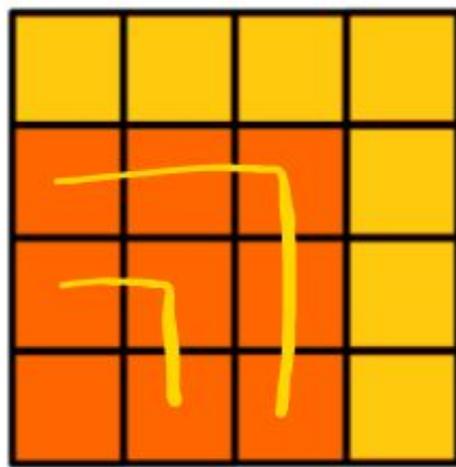
DA

$$4 + 5 = 9$$

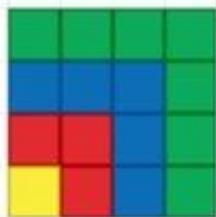
+2

+7

19



$$9 + 7 = 16$$



$4 \times 4 = 16$  LD

$+ + + =$ 
  
 AC

$1 + 3 + 5 + 7 = 16$

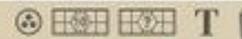
$1$   
 $3$   
 $5$   
 $7$

$)$  4  
 $)$  12  
 $)$  16

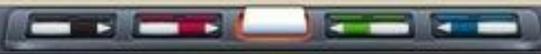
HH



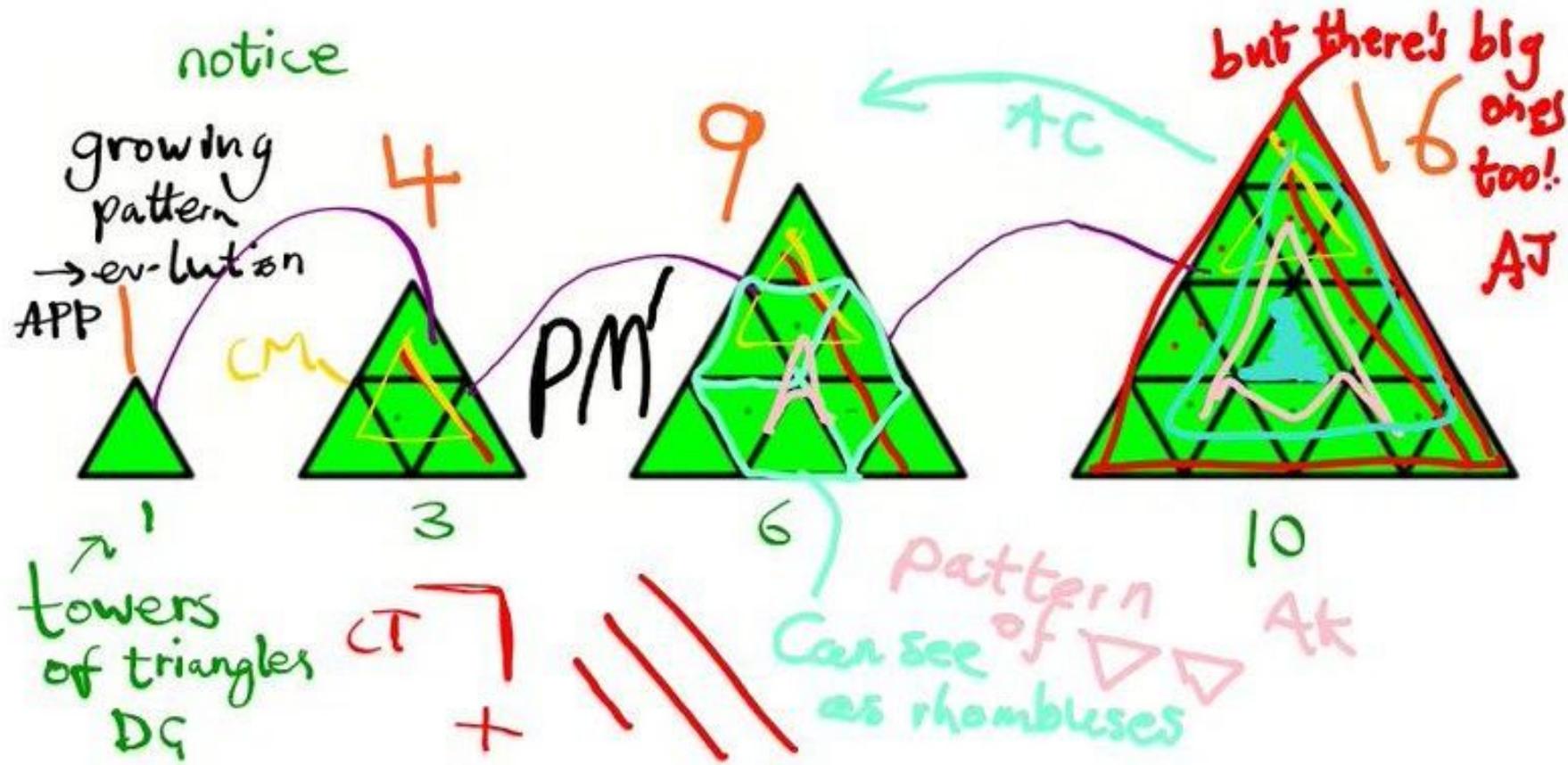
Counts



Clear All

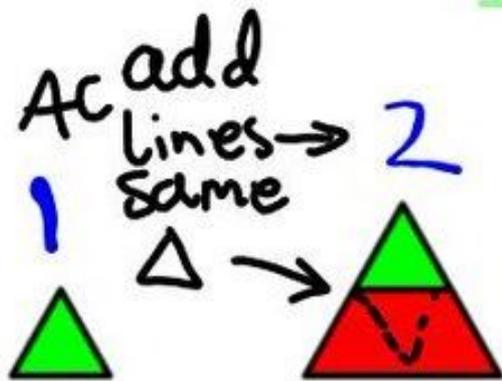


Basic



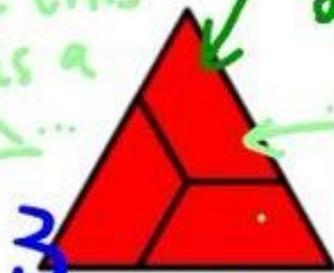
What do you notice?

What do you wonder?



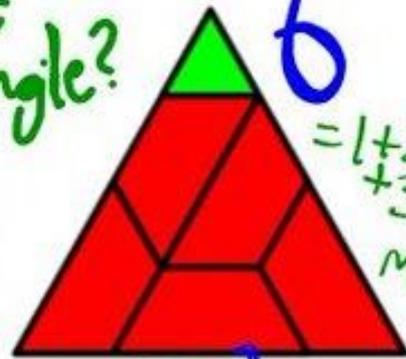
Just  $\Delta$  - trapezium  
 should be AH - all odd  
 just  $\Delta$ s. MH

AP why didn't you put a triangle?  
 If this was a  $\Delta$ ...

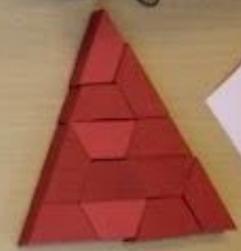
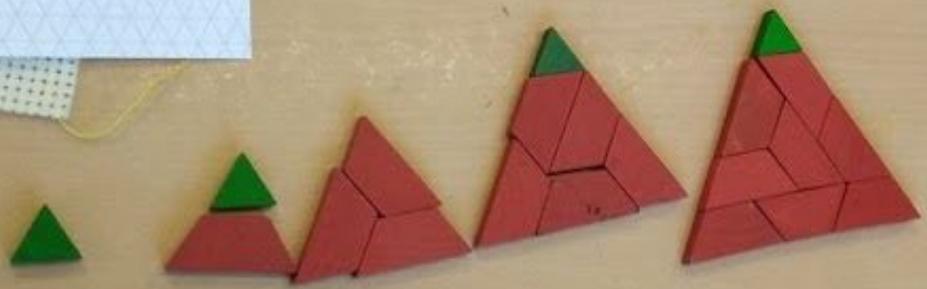


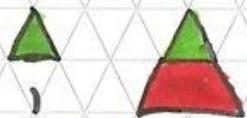
$= 1+2$   
 MT

... this would be a rhombus  
 AK

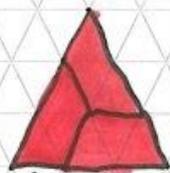


5 fits

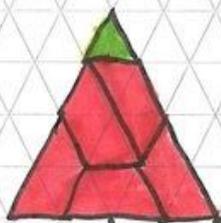




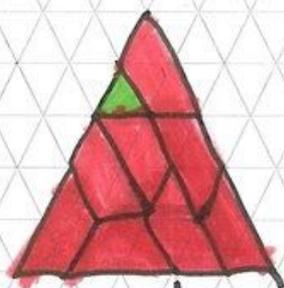
I wonder why no tropisyan.



I wonder why there is no triangle.



It has parellal lines.

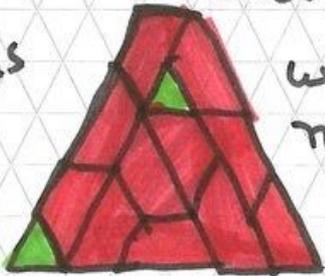


It has vertic!

between a



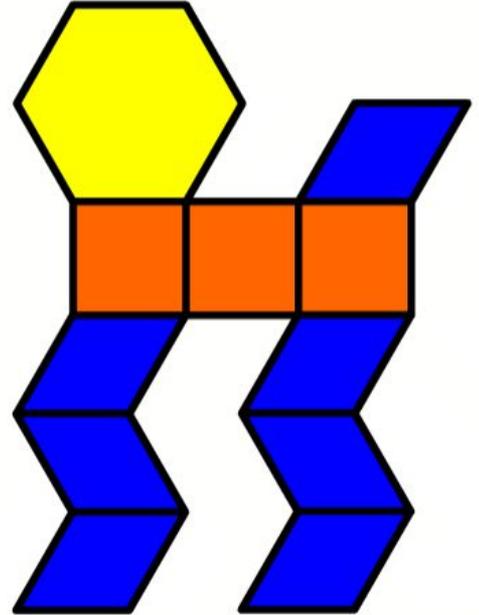
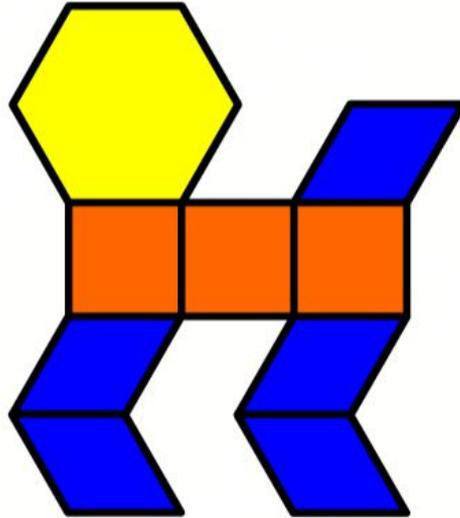
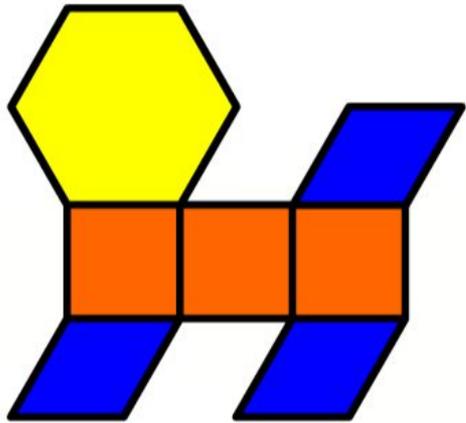
This

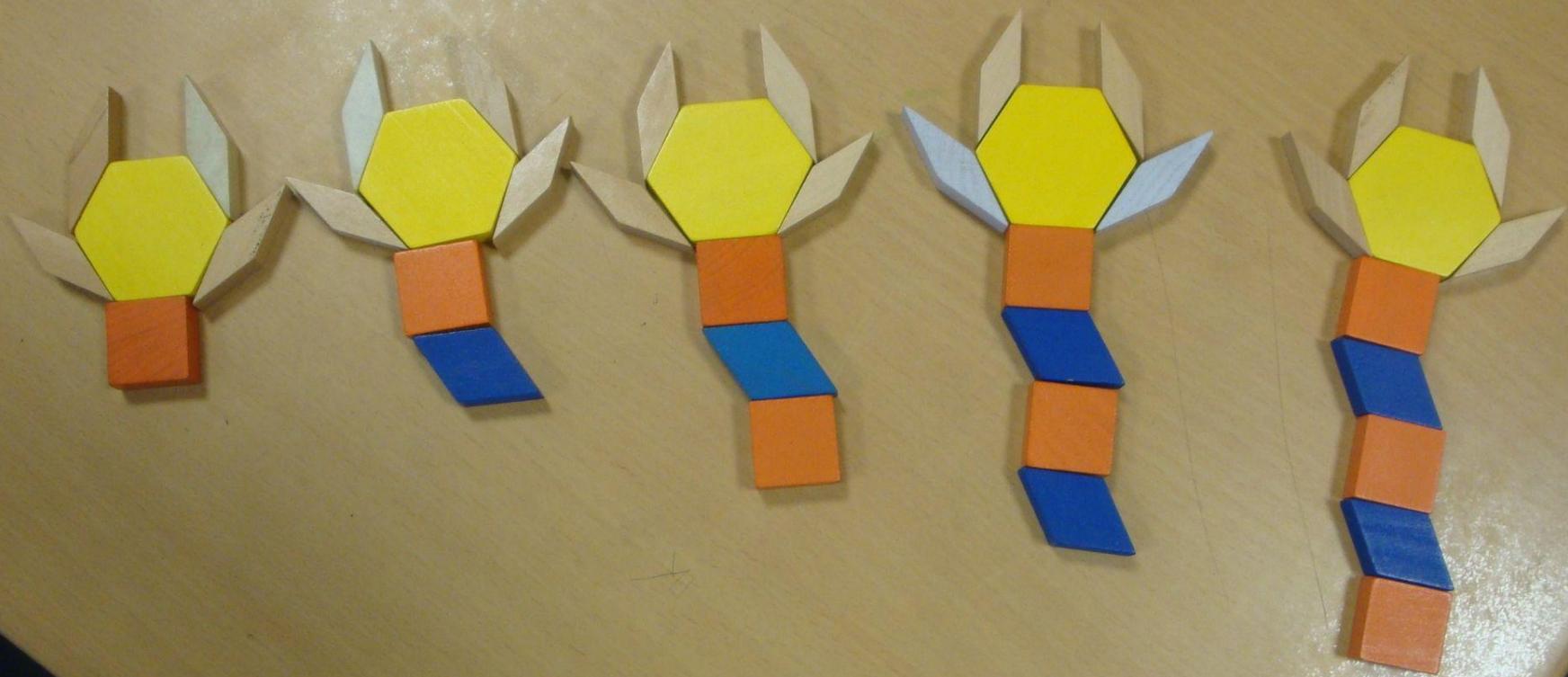


I wonder will be next.

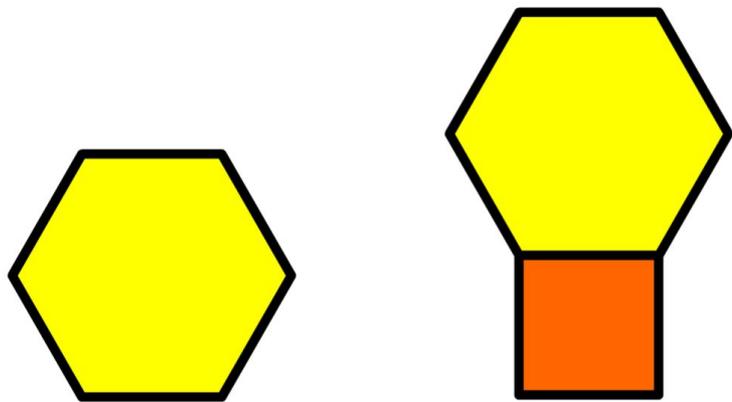


More growing pattern work with 8 and 9 olds





What do you notice? What do you wonder?

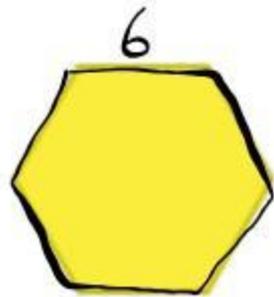


It's a growing pattern.

Ak

It's an evolution  
AP

Euler's rule  
would work  
Ak

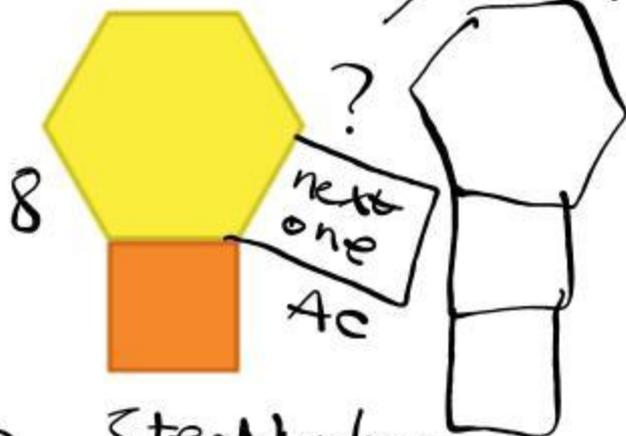


Step Number  
1

like a tree LD

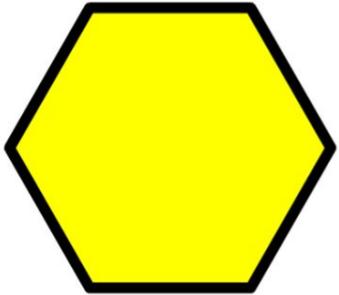
Yes 6.8.10  
PM

next  
one?  
HH

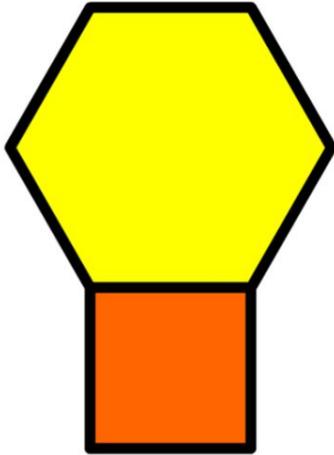


Step Number  
2 MK

6



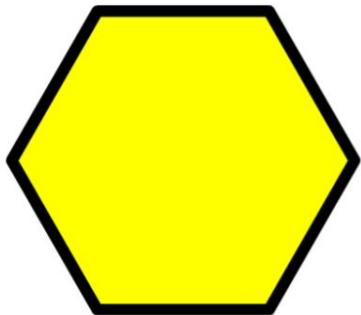
8



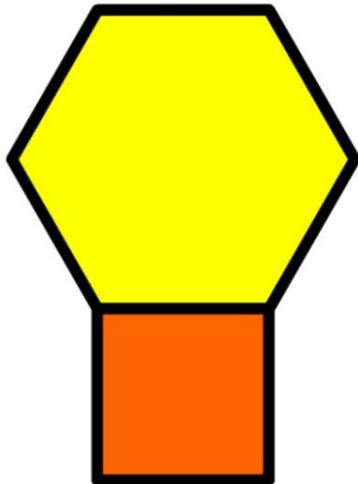
What comes next?

12

6



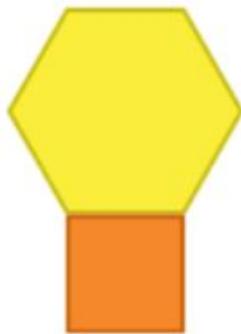
8



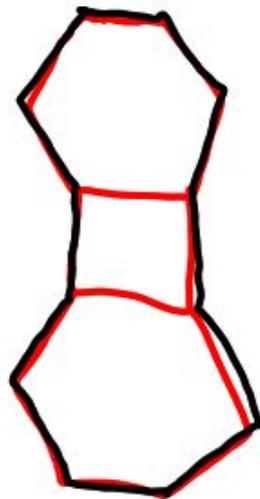
**6**

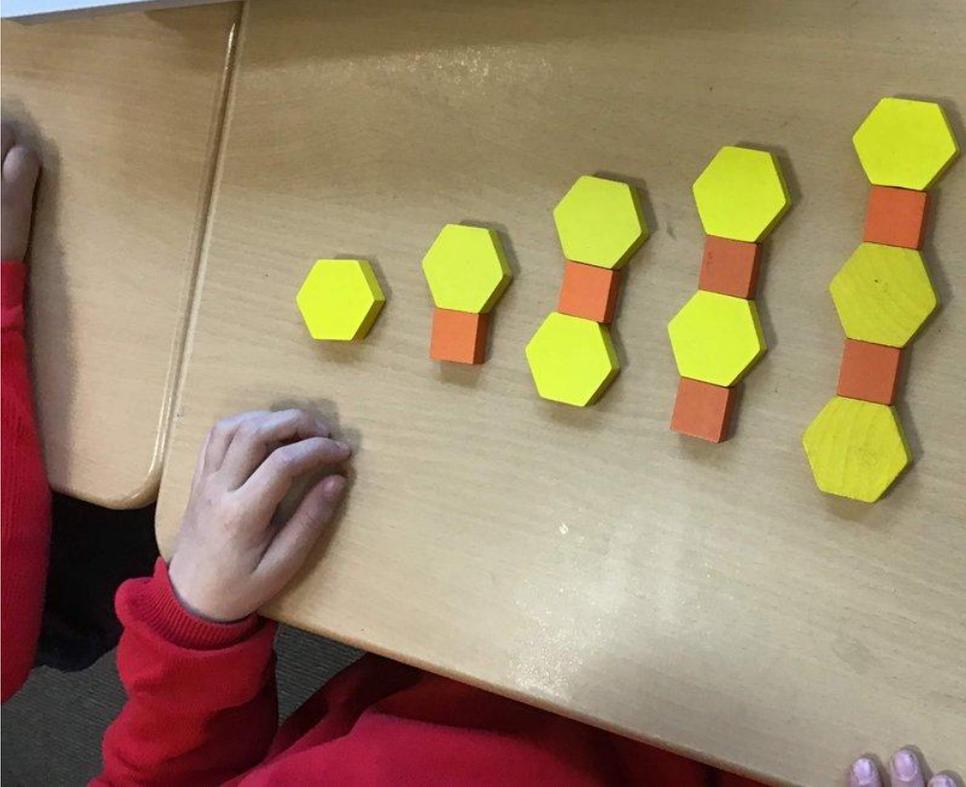
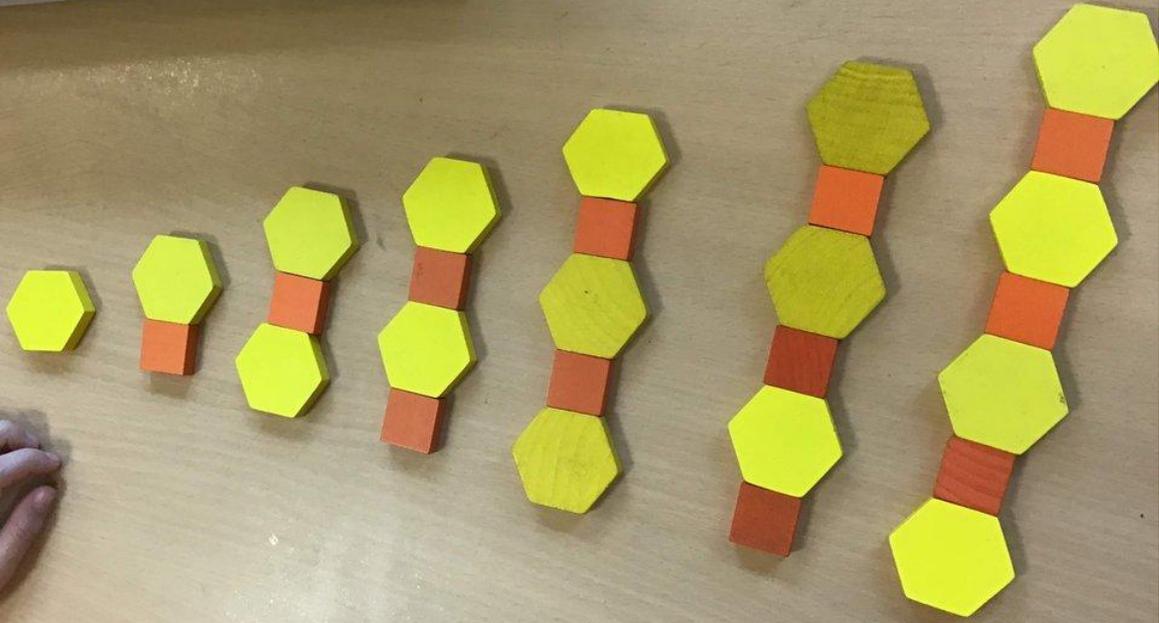


**8**



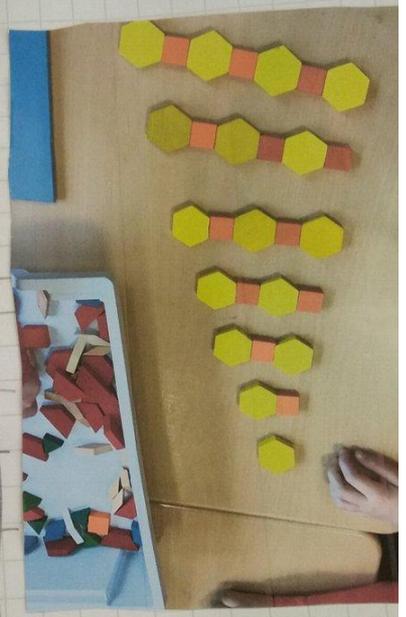
**12**

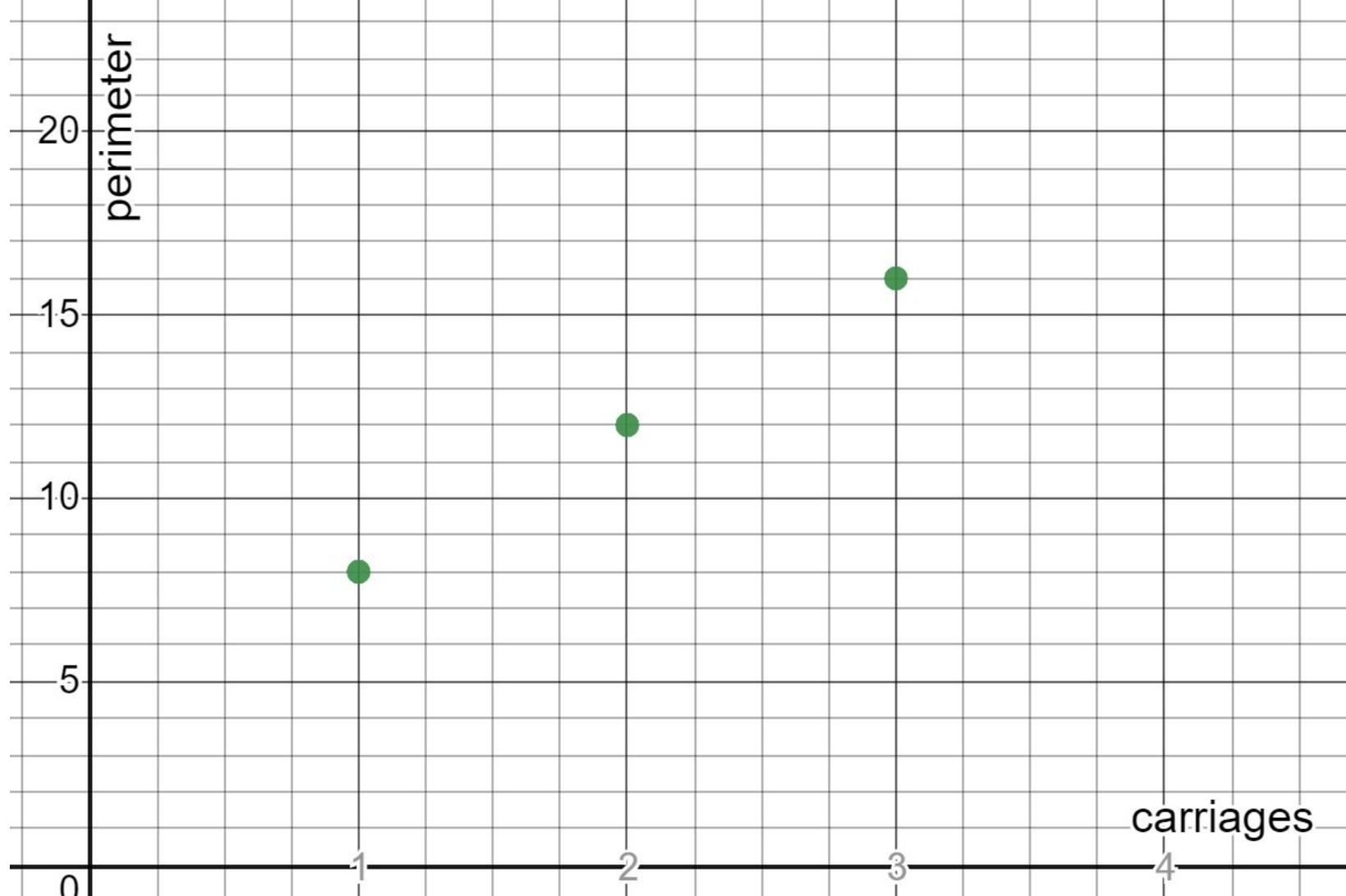




dots represent  
tight line.

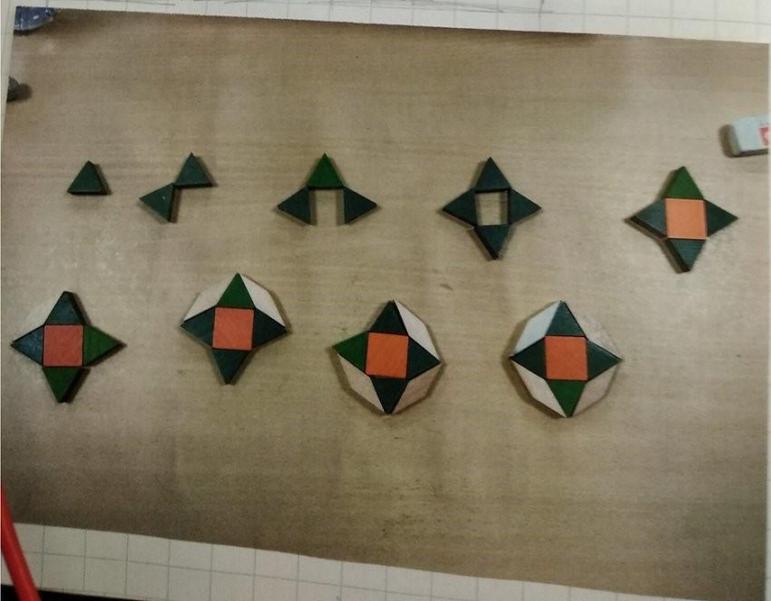
Step number	Perimeter
1	6
2	8
3	12
4	14
5	18
6	20
7	24
8	26
9	30
10	22
11	26
12	30
13	32
14	36
15	40
16	42
17	46
18	50
19	52
20	56
21	60
22	62
23	66
24	70
25	72
26	76
27	80



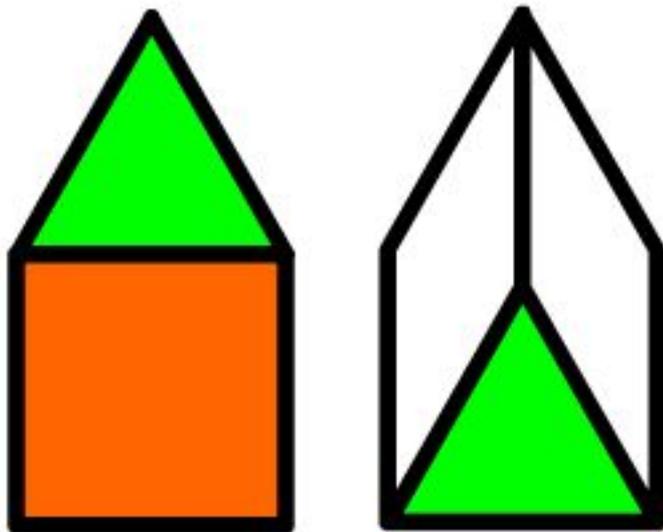


## 2nd Growing Pattern

Step number	Perimeter
1	3
2	6
3	9
4	8
5	<del>8</del> 12
6	8
7	8
8	8
9	8



Equality



## Areas as numbers

If the green triangle is 1,  
what other numbers can  
you see?

