# Brick Math Lesson of the Month - March 2021 FACTORS OF 16 From Basic Fractions Using LEGO® Bricks 

## Teacher's Lesson Guide

## Model how to find all the factors of 16

1. Place one 2 x 8 brick or one 1 x 16 brick on a baseplate. Have students draw this model and write the multiplication fact (answer: $1 \times 16=16$ ).

2. Find two bricks that are the same and, when placed next to the 16 -stud brick, are equivalent in size and show two halves of the 16 -stud brick. Use two $2 \times 4$ bricks or two 1 x 8 bricks. Have students draw this model and write the multiplication fact (answer: $2 \times 8=16$ ).
3. Ask students: Can you find three bricks of equal size equivalent to the size of the 16 -stud brick?

Let students look and think, and discover that the answer is no.
4. Ask students: Can you find four bricks of equal size equivalent to the size of the 16 -stud brick?

Let students look and think, and discover that the answer is four $2 \times 2$ bricks or four $1 \times 4$ bricks. Have students draw this part of the model and write the multiplication fact (answer: $4 \times 4=16$ ).

5. Ask students: Can you find the next number of equal-sized bricks that are equivalent to the size of the 16 -stud brick?

Let students discover that five, six, and seven bricks don't work. Let them discover that the answer is eight $1 \times 2$ bricks. Have students draw this part of the model and write the multiplication fact (answer: $8 \times 2=16$ ).

6. Ask students: Can you find the next number of equal-sized bricks that are equivalent to the size of the 16-stud brick?

Let students discover that the answer is sixteen 1x1 bricks. Have students draw this part of the model and write the multiplication fact (answer: $16 \times 1=16$ ).
7. Name all the factors of 16 by looking at the bricks on the baseplate.

Answer: 16, 8, 4, 2, and 1.

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## Student Workbook pages



## Part 1

1. Build this model with bricks to show all the factors of 16 :

Step 1: Place a 2 x 8 brick on a baseplate.
Step 2: Find two bricks of equal size that together are equivalent in size to the 16 -stud brick, showing two halves of the 16 -stud brick. Place them next to the 16 -stud brick.

Step 3: Find four bricks of equal size equivalent in size to the 16 -stud brick and place them next to the step 2 bricks.

Step 4: Find the next number of equal-sized bricks that are equivalent to the size of the 16 -stud brick and place them next to the step 3 bricks.

Step 5: Find the next number of equal-sized bricks that are equivalent to the size of the 16 -stud brick and place them next to the step 4 bricks.

Draw your model.


Using the model, list all the factors of 16.

