Divide a Whole Number by a Unit Fraction
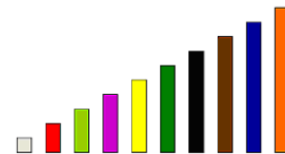
Materials: cuisenaire rods

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1. Write story contexts to illustrate three of the following problems:

   a) $4 \div \frac{1}{2}$ b) $3 \div \frac{1}{5}$ c) $2 \div \frac{1}{6}$ d) $5 \div \frac{1}{4}$

2. Use cuisenaire rods to model each problem. Record your work using pictures, numbers and words.

3. Use the relationship between multiplication and division to check your work.

Example: $2 \div \frac{1}{3}$ Janet had a rope that was 2 meters long. She cut it into pieces that were $\frac{1}{3}$ of a meter long. How many pieces of rope did Janet cut?

Janet was able to cut 6 pieces of rope. To solve this problem I gave the dark green rod the value of 1 meter. A red rod represented $\frac{1}{3}$ meter. I needed 6 red rods to match the length of two green rods. $2 \div \frac{1}{3} = 6$ or $6 \times \frac{1}{3} = 2$