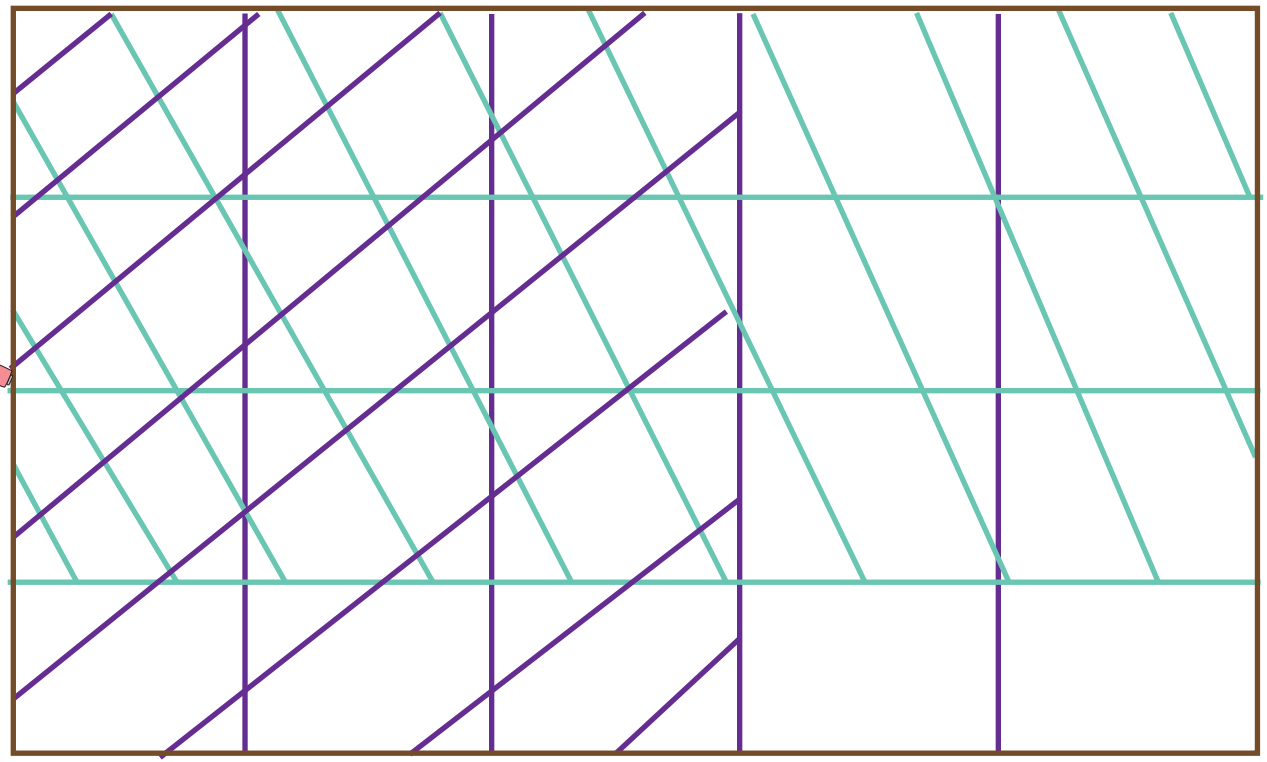
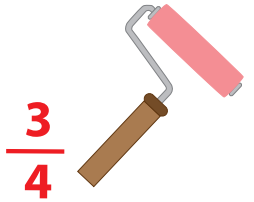
Name _____ Date _____

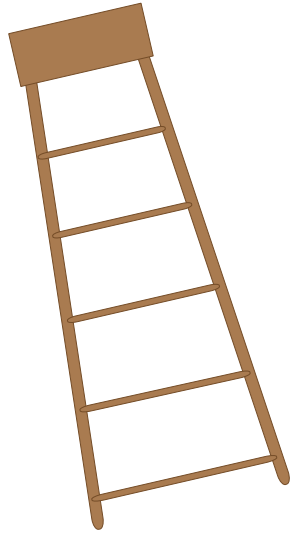
A Fraction of a Wall

ANSWERS

Problem #1: Andrea is painting her baby brother's wall the wrong color! She painted $\frac{3}{5}$ of the wall the wrong color. She was only able to color over $\frac{3}{4}$ of the wall before her mom got home. Use the drawing of the wall as an area model to visualize the fractional parts and determine how much of the wall Andrea was able to paint over.







$\frac{3}{5}$

Work Space:

$\frac{3}{5} \times \frac{3}{4} = \frac{9}{20}$

Andrea painted over $\frac{9}{20}$ of the piece of the wall that has the incorrect color.

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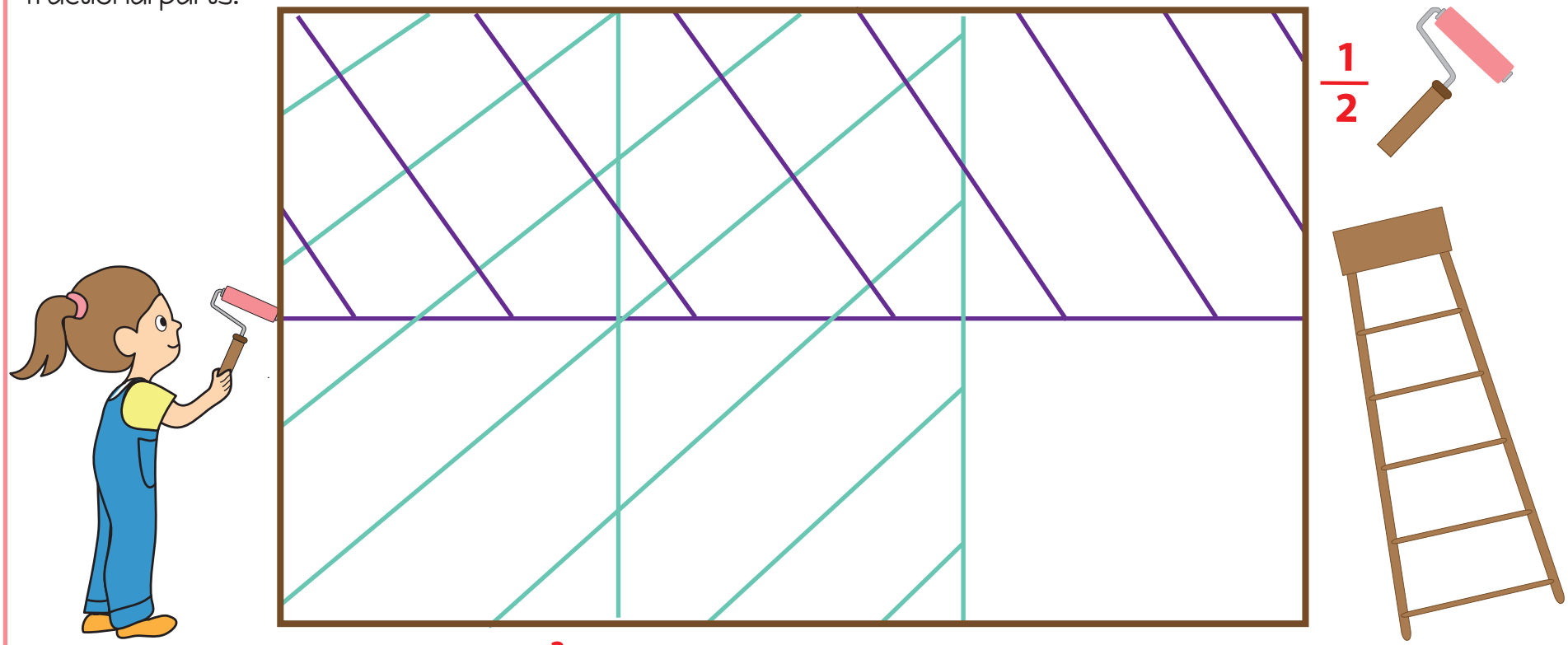
Problem #2: Andrea finally finished the baby's wall and has begun painting her bedroom. She only had enough paint to cover $\frac{1}{3}$ of the wall. She bought another paint can and painted $\frac{1}{2}$ of the remaining wall before the paint spilled on the carpet. How much of the wall was she able to paint? Use the drawing of the wall as an area model to visualize the fractional parts.



Work Space:

$\frac{3}{3} - \frac{1}{3} = \frac{2}{3}$ of the wall left to paint before the new paint can. (Students can also use the area model to leave $\frac{1}{3}$ blank to signify the painted wall, and then shade in $\frac{2}{3}$ of the wall that is not painted.)

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

Andrea painted $\frac{1}{3}$ of the remaining wall space (i.e., $\frac{2}{3}$ of the wall).