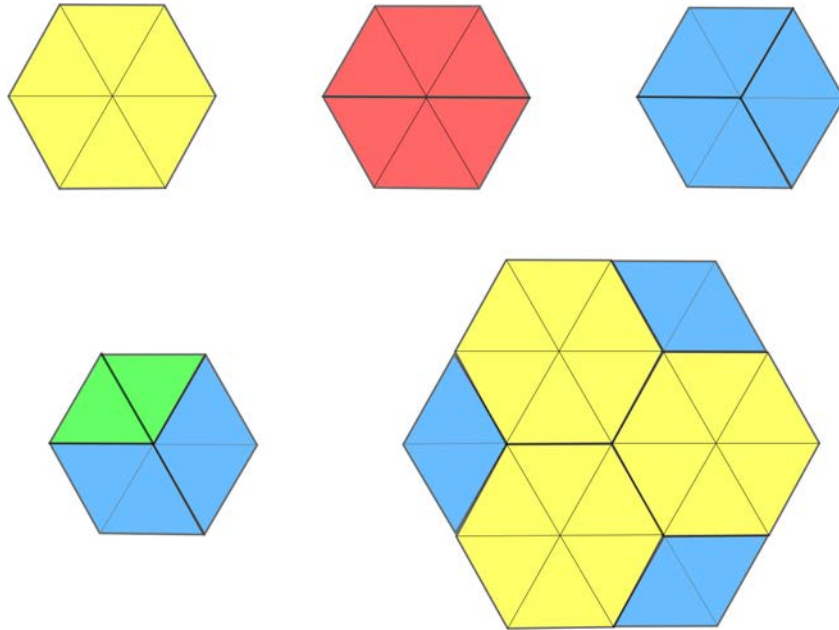


# Puzzle of the Week

## *Pattern Blocks – Hexagons*

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Using just four of the standard pattern block shapes, here are examples of making hexagons with one, two, three, four and six of those shapes.



**THE CHALLENGE:** For each of the numbers from 5 to 10, make a hexagon that uses that many of these shapes.

**EXPLORATION:** Can you find more than one way to do some of these? Extend your list of possible numbers to 20!

# Puzzle of the Week

## *Pattern Blocks – Hexagons – Notes*

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**THE CHALLENGE & EXPLORATION:** There are a large number of ways to do this. Any design that involves a parallelogram can be used to create a hexagon that has one more triangle by splitting the parallelogram into two triangles. Similarly, trapezoids can be split into a parallelogram and a triangle. Also, hexagons can be split into two trapezoids, three parallelograms, or six triangles. All of these give automatic ways of creating hexagons with one additional shape over and over again.

Here are just a few of the starting numbers. There are too many to attempt to show them all. Some of the patterns your students create will make pretty patterns and may look good hung on the walls of your classroom.

