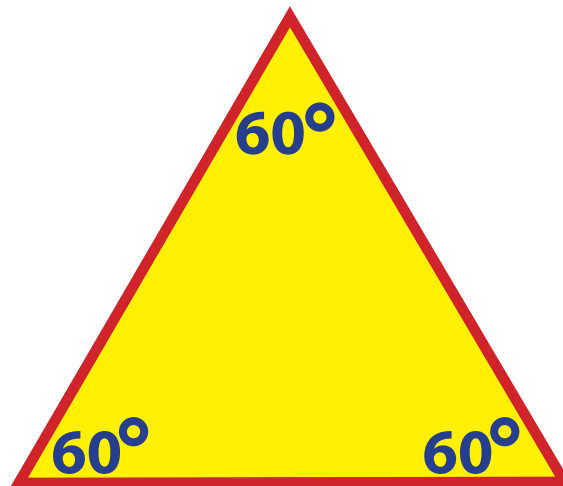# Musical Math

Activity 4 - Musical Triangles

The triangle is a simple percussion instrument consisting of steel rod in the shape of a triangle, open at one angle, usually suspended by a cord and struck with a metal beater. It has been popular in Europe since the Middle Ages. While it is small in size and has no definite pitch of its own, the triangle sounds as if it has the pitch of whatever high instrument it accompanies.

This musical instrument is an equilateral triangle. The sum of the measures of the interior angles of a triangle is 180 degrees. Since all the sides of equilateral triangles are the same length, all the angles are the same: **180 ÷ 3 = 60**.

The interior angles of an equilateral triangle are all 60 degrees.

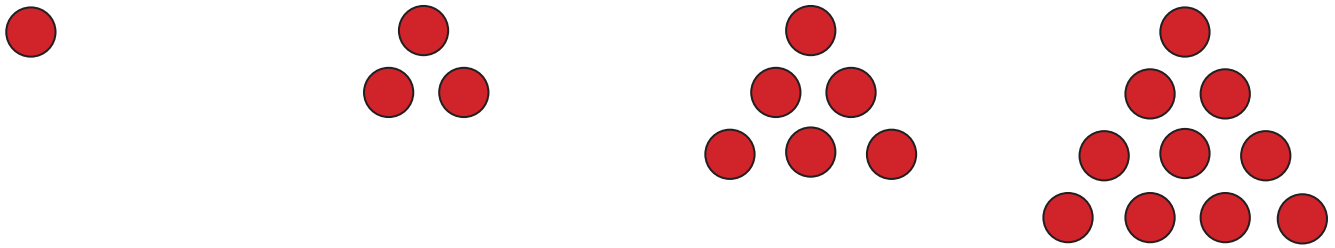**Did you know that there are triangular numbers?**
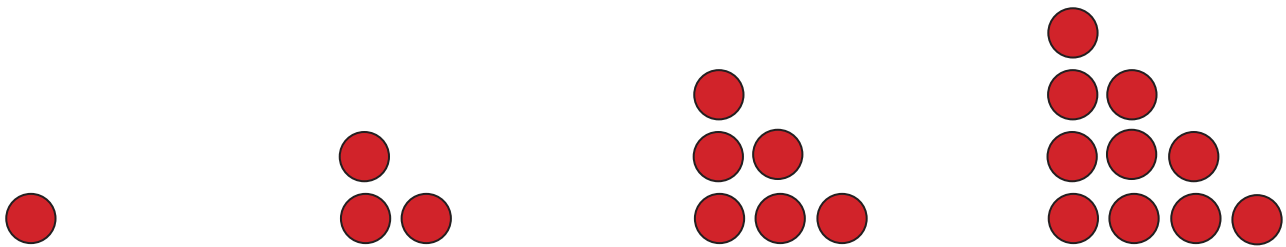
Can you believe THIS is math?

Musical Math

Activity 4 - Musical Triangles - *continued*

Triangular Numbers can be thought of as the numbers of dots you need to make a triangle.

For example,

1, 3, 6 and 10 are triangular numbers.

There are many more triangular numbers!
But you have to discover them yourself

How many triangular numbers can you find?
Use beads, coins or buttons to create some triangular numbers
and find the answer!

Can you believe THIS is math?