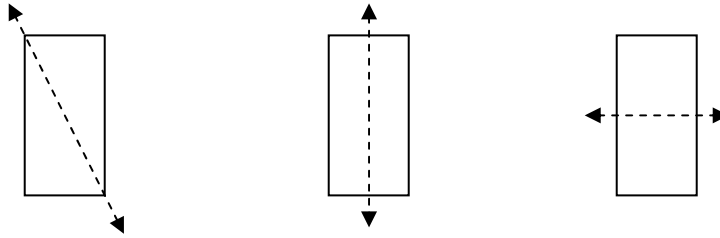


Reteaching Page

7.11 Symmetry

A figure has **line symmetry** if it can be folded or reflected so that the two overlapping parts of the figure are congruent. The **line of reflection** is called the **line of symmetry**.

To figure out if a dashed line is a line of symmetry, test to see if the two parts match exactly when folded or reflected across the line. The two parts match, so the line is a line of symmetry. One of the lines below is not a line of symmetry – can you figure out which one?



In the first figure, two congruent triangles are made, but one is not the reflection of the other. Try it with a piece of paper and you will see that rectangles do not have a line of symmetry from corner to corner. This idea will probably show up on a test somewhere as you can see how many children will believe that it is symmetry.

To find all of the lines of symmetry in a figure you must check each corner and the midpoint of each side. In the case of a **regular polygon** the number of lines of symmetry will match the number of sides. Below are five regular polygons and one not regular – draw all of the lines of symmetry for each figure.

