

School-Home Letter

Dear Family,

During the next few weeks, our math class will be learning about perimeter and area of shapes.

You can expect to see homework that provides practice with measuring and finding perimeter, and finding area by counting squares, using addition, or using multiplication.

Here is a sample of how your child will be taught to find perimeter.

Vocabulary

area The measure of unit squares needed to cover a flat surface

perimeter The distance around a shape

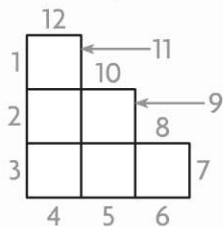
unit square A square with a side length of 1 unit that is used to measure area

MODEL Find Perimeter

These are two ways to find perimeter.

Count units.

Find the perimeter of the shape by counting each unit around the shape.

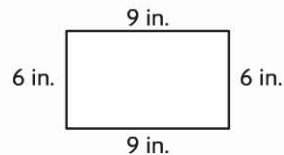


Perimeter is the distance around a shape.

So, the perimeter is 12 units.

Use addition.

Find the perimeter of the rectangle.



Perimeter = length + width + length + width

Add: $9 + 6 + 9 + 6 = 30$ inches

So, the perimeter is 30 inches.

Tips

Finding Unknown Side Lengths

Sometimes not all lengths of the sides of a shape are given. If you know the perimeter, you can add the lengths of the sides you know and use an equation to find the unknown side length.

Activity

Have your child practice finding the perimeter and area of items around the house. Find and measure the sides of items that have plane shapes, such as an envelope, a place mat, a square potholder, a pennant, or a rug.