

SCHOOL to HOME Connections

Chapter 19 Area and Perimeter

Dear Family,

In this chapter, your child will learn to find the area and perimeter of rectangular figures.

Some of the skills your child will practice are:

- understanding the meaning of area and perimeter
- using square units to find and compare the areas of plane figures
- estimating the area of small and large surfaces
- measuring or finding perimeter

Activity

Children sometimes confuse area with perimeter. Carry out this simple yet fun activity at home to help reinforce the concepts of area and perimeter.

- Have your child imagine that both of you are about to do a complete makeover of a bedroom.
- Ask your child what you must know before starting. Lead your child to see that you first find the measurements of the room.
- Using a measuring tape, help your child find the length, width, and height of the room. Then with the information, discuss how to find the floor area, for example, to decide on the amount of flooring or the perimeter of the room in order to decide what length of wallpaper border to purchase.

Vocabulary to Practice

Area is the number of square units needed to cover the surface of each figure.

Square units are units such as square centimeter, square inch, square foot, or square meter that are used to measure area.

Square centimeter (cm²) and **square meter (m²)** are metric units of measure for area.

Square inch (in.²) and **square foot (ft²)** are customary units of measure for area.

Perimeter is the distance around a figure. Perimeter is measured in linear units such as centimeters, inches, meters, and feet.