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LESSON 5-10

Perimeter of Rectangles

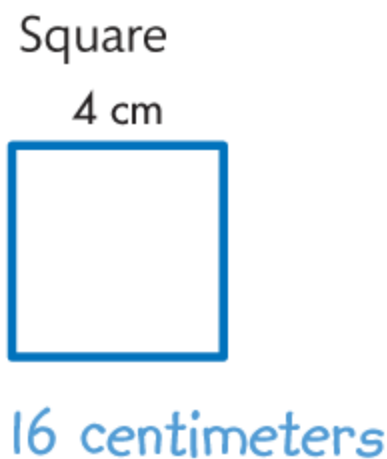
 [MA.3.GR.2.3](#), [MA.3.AR.1.2](#), [MA.3.NSO.2.4](#), [MTR.1.1](#), [MTR.4.1](#), [MTR.5.1](#)

For more help with this lesson, view the [Visual Learning Animation](#) or the [Another Look Video](#).

MATH HELP AT HOME

Sample Additional Practice Exercise 1

Find the perimeter of the figure.



Perimeter is the distance around the figure. The square has four equal side lengths, each 4 cm.

Add the four side lengths: $4 + 4 + 4 + 4 = 16$ centimeters.

Or, multiply the side length by 4: $4 \times 4 = 16$ centimeters.

Processing math: 30%

HOME ACTIVITY

Walk It Out

MATERIALS

Rectangular Surface, Such as a Driveway or Sidewalk

ACTIVITY

Find a rectangular surface with edges that are clear to walk on. Your child will find the perimeter of the rectangle by walking, using their own steps as the unit of measure. First have your child practice taking steps that are close to the same length. Direct your child to follow these four methods. Each time, have your child start in one corner and estimate to the nearest whole step at corners. All results should basically match!

Method 1: Walk the entire perimeter of the rectangle (four sides) while counting all your steps.

Method 2: Walk half the perimeter of the rectangle (two connecting sides) while counting steps. Then multiply by 2 and see if you get the same perimeter as in Method 1.

Method 3: Walk one side of the rectangle while counting steps, stop at the corner, and put that side length in your memory. Turn and find the length of the next side. Add the two lengths, and then multiply by 2 to find the perimeter. Compare with your previous results.

Method 4: Walk one side of the rectangle while counting steps, multiply that side length by 2 (because there are 2 sides with this length), and put the result in your memory. Turn and find the length of the next side and multiply by 2. Add to find the perimeter and compare with your previous results.

Summary: Discuss how these methods relate to formulas for the perimeter of a rectangle. P stands for perimeter, l stands for length, and w stands for width.

Method 1: $P = l + w + l + w$

Methods 2 and 3: $P = l + w \times 2$; also written $P = 2l + w$.

Method 4: $P = l \times 2 + w \times 2$; also written $P = 2l + 2w$.