



## Related Activities to Try at Home (page 1 of 2)

Dear Family,

The activities below are related to the mathematics in the geometry and measurement unit *Perimeter, Angles, and Area*. You can use the activities to enrich your child's mathematical learning experience.

**Measuring Length Around the House** Measurement questions occur often in our home lives. Typical questions that may come up include these: How far is it across our kitchen table? How many children can fit comfortably on the couch? What is the perimeter of the new rug—will it fit in the bedroom? Encourage your child to estimate and measure distances in these practical situations. You may involve your child in your own measurement activities—hobbies such as sewing and carpentry are a natural for this. You and your child can go outside to measure larger distances. How many yards is it to the end of the block? What is the distance in feet between two trees? Is the perimeter of the sandbox larger or smaller than the perimeter of the flower garden?

**Measuring Area Around the House** Look for opportunities at home to talk with your child about area—the two-dimensional measure of the size of a surface.

- If you have square tiles covering a floor or bathroom wall, ask, “How many squares are there?”
- Ask your child to help you figure out the area of a tabletop or the floor of a room by using different common objects as the unit of measure. For example, how many sheets of notebook paper would it take to cover the kitchen floor? How many index cards would it take to cover a table? Your child can estimate the answer first and then use the sheets of paper or index cards to find the exact amount.

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## Related Activities to Try at Home (page 2 of 2)

### Polygon and Angle Scavenger Hunt

- Look for examples of polygons during your daily travels with your child. For example, when you are in the car together, your child can call out the figures that he or she sees on signs, buildings, shop windows, and so on.
- You can explore angles with your child by noticing when you make turns in walking around the house, down the street, or in stores. Many of the turns you make will be  $90^\circ$  turns (right angles), as on the corner of a piece of paper or the intersection of two streets. You can explore angles that are not right angles by asking your child whether the angles you see or turns you make are more or less than  $90^\circ$ .
- If your child has any game boards or spinners, look at their designs with your child. Do you see right angles ( $90^\circ$  angles)? Do you see any angles that may be half of that, or  $45^\circ$ ? What other angles do you see?

**Math and Literature** Here are some suggestions of children's books that contain relevant mathematical ideas about geometry and measurement. Look for these books at your local library.

Adler, David A. *How Tall, How Short, How Far Away.*

Briggs, Raymond. *Jim and the Beanstalk.*

Burns, Marilyn. *The Greedy Triangle.*

Burns, Marilyn. *Spaghetti and Meatballs for All!*

*A Mathematical Story.*

Leedy, Loreen. *Measuring Penny.*

Myller, Rolf. *How Big Is a Foot?*

