

Measurement 6: Understanding perimeter and area

Help the Baker

How this will help your child

- This activity will allow your child to work out the perimeter of different shapes (the perimeter is the total distance around the outside edge of a shape).

Words and phrases to use

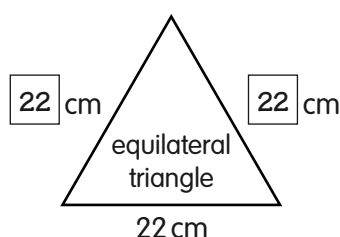
perimeter, measure, length, distance, how far, metres, total, double, add, multiply, centimetre (cm)

You will need

- A pencil

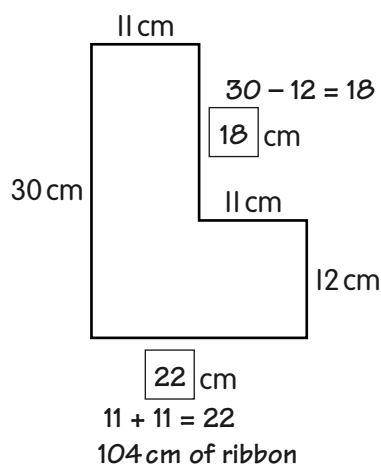
During the activity, look at what your child can do

- Use clues to find missing lengths in centimetres and work out the perimeter of different shapes.



Equilateral triangles have all sides the same length

1



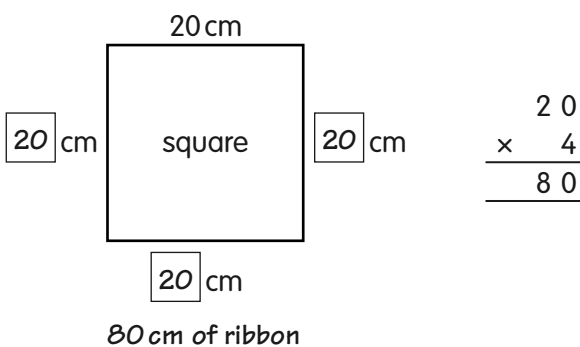
2

What to do

- Explain to your child that a baker has been asked to make five celebration cakes, each with a ribbon around the sides. Each cake is a different shape and size and the baker wants to know how much ribbon he needs for each cake.
- Look at the Help the Baker sheet with your child. Explain that the baker drew a small outline of each cake (not real size) and started measuring the sides of the cakes and labelling the outlines to help him. Part way through his ruler broke and now he cannot work out how much ribbon he needs for each cake!
- Talk to your child about the measurements that are shown in centimetres on the sides of each cake. Can they use what they know about the shapes to work out the lengths of any of the other sides? Ask them to fill in the lengths of the sides of each cake. **1**
- Now ask them if they can work out how much ribbon is needed to go round each cake and write this for each shape. **2**
- For each cake they might add all the sides together, or if the side lengths are repeated they might use multiplying or doubling. **3**

Next steps...

- Look around your home for items your child could measure the sides of with a ruler or tape measure and find the perimeter of, e.g. a book, a table.
- If you go to a leisure centre or playing fields, challenge your child to guess the perimeter of, e.g. the swimming pool or football field.



80 cm of ribbon

3

Help the Baker

