



Understanding Unit Squares

Today's Standard

3.MD.C5a - A square with side length 1 unit, called "a unit square," is said to have "one square unit" of area, and can be used to measure area.

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Measuring the area of a classroom floor using unit squares.; Calculating the area of a garden plot by counting unit squares.; Using unit squares to determine the area of a piece of paper.; Comparing the areas of different book covers using unit squares.

Today I Learned

Today, we learned about unit squares. A unit square has sides that are one unit long and an area of one square unit. We use unit squares to measure the area inside shapes.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Some kids might think that the size of a unit square can change, but it can't. It's always the same size. Others might mix up area and perimeter. Area is the space inside a shape, while perimeter is the distance around it.

Quiz Me

- What is a unit square?
- How long are the sides of a unit square?
- What does area measure?
- What is the difference between area and perimeter?
- Can the size of a unit square change?

Help Me

A unit square has sides that are one unit long and an area of one square unit. We use unit squares to measure the space inside shapes. For example, you can use unit squares to find out how much space a piece of paper covers or how much material you need to cover a table.