

3rd Grade: Multiply to Find Area

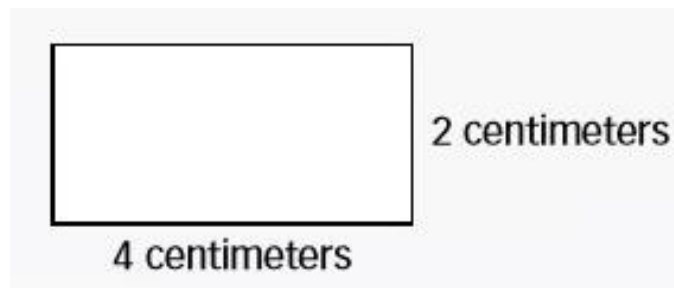
Area is the amount of space a shape covers. Previously, your child learned that area is the number of square units that cover a shape, and then just counted the squares to find the area.

When the shape is a rectangle, you can use multiplication to find the number of square units that cover the shape. To find the area of any rectangle, multiply the length times the width (or the width times the length).

$$4 \times 2 = 8$$

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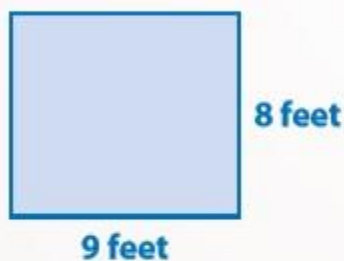
The area of this rectangle is 8 square centimeters.



For example:

Ms. Cruz is putting a carpet in the living room. The length and width of the room is shown below. How many square feet of carpet does Ms. Cruz need to cover the floor?

Living Room



Look at how you could show your work using multiplication.

length	×	width	=	area
9 feet	×	8 feet	=	72 square feet

Solution 72 square feet