

Inside Space Sort

Sort ideas that measure flat space from ideas that do not.

NY-3.MD.5 "Recognize area as an attribute of plane figures and understand concepts of area measurement."

NAME _____

DATE _____

MEASURES AREA

An area measure tells how many square units cover a flat region. It describes the space within a closed shape.

A stamp covers 6 square centimeters.

DOES NOT MEASURE AREA

A measure of length, weight, or number of sides is not area. It does not tell how many square units cover a region.

A path around a pond is 30 yards long.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle AREA or NOT AREA for each item, then in Part 2 choose two items and write what words helped you decide.

1. The square units needed to cover a notebook cover.

AREA

NOT AREA

2. The amount of flat space on a rug.

AREA

NOT AREA

3. The distance around a playground.

AREA

NOT AREA

4. The square inches that cover a photo.

AREA

NOT AREA

5. The length of a ribbon.

AREA

NOT AREA

6. The number of sides on a hexagon.

AREA

NOT AREA

7. The amount of surface a leaf-shaped cutout covers.

AREA

NOT AREA

8. The weight of a backpack.

AREA

NOT AREA

2

PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

3

MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new AREA example and one new NOT AREA example.

AREA _____

NOT AREA _____

CHALLENGE

A rectangle is covered by 4 rows of 6 square tiles. Is 24 square tiles an AREA or NOT AREA measurement? Explain why.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The square units needed to cover a notebook cover.	AREA	This tells how many square units cover a flat surface.
2	The amount of flat space on a rug.	AREA	This describes the surface covered by the rug.
3	The distance around a playground.	NOT AREA	This is a distance around an edge, not a measure of inside space.
4	The square inches that cover a photo.	AREA	Square inches covering a flat surface measure area.
5	The length of a ribbon.	NOT AREA	Length measures how long something is.
6	The number of sides on a hexagon.	NOT AREA	Counting sides does not measure covered space.
7	The amount of surface a leaf-shaped cutout covers.	AREA	This describes how much flat surface the cutout covers.
8	The weight of a backpack.	NOT AREA	Weight does not measure a flat surface.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **AREA:** The square feet needed to cover a patio.
- **NOT AREA:** The 18 inches around a picture frame.

Challenge: AREA. Four rows of 6 tiles cover the inside of the rectangle, so the area is 24 square tiles.

For Part 2, accept explanations that identify square units or covering space for AREA. For NOT AREA, students may identify length, distance around, weight, or a count of sides.