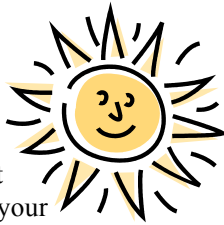


Computer Capers

May 2008
www.buddyproject.org/capers

Let the Sunshine In

Now that Winter is behind us, the skies are starting to open up, the sun is shining more, and we have more hours of daylight! Can you figure out how much of that sunshine gets into your house through the windows? To find the answer to this question you need to first measure each window of your home. Grab a measuring tape, a pencil and paper to record your findings as you go. Measure the length and width of each window in inches. You may find that some of them are the same. If so, just use a tally mark when recording. Next, create a spreadsheet on your computer that will help you to calculate the area of each window, and the total area in your whole home. In column A List each of the windows by room. Column B will hold the width and column C the height. Use column D to place the formula to calculate Area (multiply the width times the height (=b*c) If you had multiple windows that were the same size you can either copy and paste the data down your spreadsheet or multiply the area in column D by the number of windows that size. When all of your measurements are entered and the area for each is calculated, find the total area (add a sum formula) that includes all area calculations for all windows. Are you surprised by your final answer? Would you rather have more or less area for sunlight to enter your home? Why?



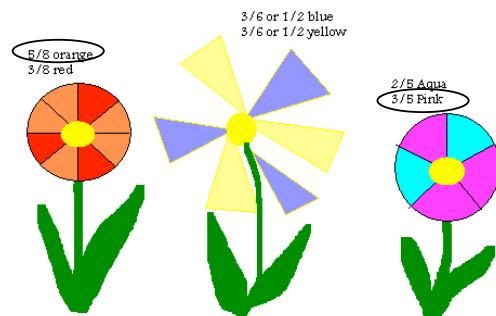
Challenge: Your calculations are in square inch units. Can you figure out a way to make them in square feet? ...in yards?

Room	Width	Height	Area
Kitchen	30	41	=B2*C2
Living Room	58	26	=B3*C3*2
Bathroom	17	36	=B5*C5
Dining Room	58	26	=B6*C6*2
Bedroom	58	28	
Bedroom	58	34	=B9*C9
Bedroom	58	36	=B10*C10
		Total Square Inches	=SUM(D2:D10)
		Total Square feet ?	
		Total Square Yards ?	

Indiana Mathematics Standard 5.5.2 Solve problems involving perimeters and areas of rectangles, triangles, parallelograms, and trapezoids, using appropriate units.

Flower Petal Fractions

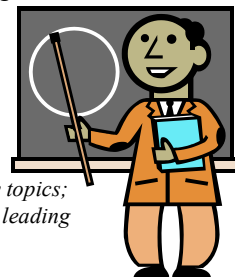
Want a fun way to practice your fractions? Do it in a beautiful way that celebrates the season? Use a drawing or painting program to create some flowers that have different sizes, shapes and numbers of petals. Next, fill in each of the flower petals using two different colors or patterns. Finally, label each flower with the fraction that represents the colors or pattern in each blossom. Circle the fraction that is the larger portion. Print your finished painting and enjoy your beautiful floral fractions!



Indiana Mathematics Standard 3.1.10 Given a pair of fractions decide which is larger or smaller by using objects or pictures.

Teacher for a Day

If you were the teacher for a day, what would you most want the students in your class to learn? Celebrate National Teacher Day on May 6th by writing a lesson plan that covers your topic of choice. Use a word processor to write your plan. Be sure that it includes: Title, Instructional Objectives (Students should be able to...), Vocabulary/Keywords, Procedures (How, Time allotted, etc), Activities, Extension Ideas, Homework, and the Indiana Academic Standards that it addresses (see <http://www.doe.state.in.us/standards/>.) You can search the Internet for examples of lessons plans or ask your teacher to see a few of theirs to help you get started. After your plan is complete, think about what you have done. Was it easier or harder than you thought to plan a lesson? If given the chance, would you be willing and able to present it to your class? Do you think you might want to pursue teaching as a career? Do you have more appreciation now for what it takes to be a teacher?



Indiana Language Arts Standard 7.4.5 Identify topics; ask and evaluate questions; and develop ideas leading to inquiry, investigation, and research.

7.4.7 Use a computer to create documents by using word-processing skills and publishing programs.