



LEARNING THROUGH BASEBALL



GEOMETRY: PERIMETER & AREA

Here's a fun baseball math activity to do with your student! It helps in teaching shapes, measuring, and the definition of "perimeter" and "area".

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- A 17" x 17" piece of paper to fold into home plate. (Newspaper works well!)
- A measuring tape.
- A calculator (optional).
- The "Learning Through Baseball Geometry: Perimeter" worksheet.

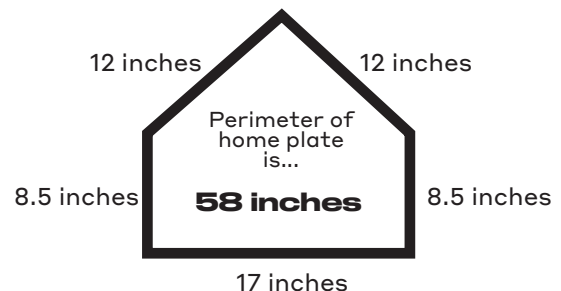
STEPS:

1. Fold your 17" x 17" piece of paper into a home plate.

- a.** Fold the sheet in half vertically. Then open the sheet back up.
- b.** Fold the sheet in half horizontally. Then open the sheet back up.
- c.** Where the folds meet is the center!
- d.** Fold two corners into the center point to form the shape of home plate (looks like a house).
- e.** You now have an official sized home plate!

2. Answer the first two questions on the worksheet:

- Shape of home plate? Pentagon (5-sided shape)
- Perimeter of home plate? Measure and total the lengths of each side.



3. Measure your student's strike zone length.

a. Have them get into their batting stance. The strike zone is from the armpits to the knees. If possible, have them measure the length of yours or a sibling's strike zone to practice measuring.

4. With your student, figure out the width of their strike zone...it's the same for everyone: 17 inches (the width of home plate!)

5. Answer the 3rd and 4th questions on the worksheet:

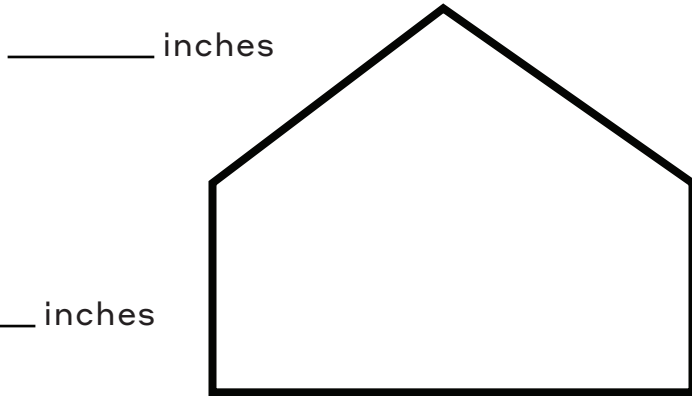
- Shape of strike zone? Rectangle (unless height is 17 inches...then it's a square)
- Area = Length x Width. Have your student multiply the length of their strike zone by the width.



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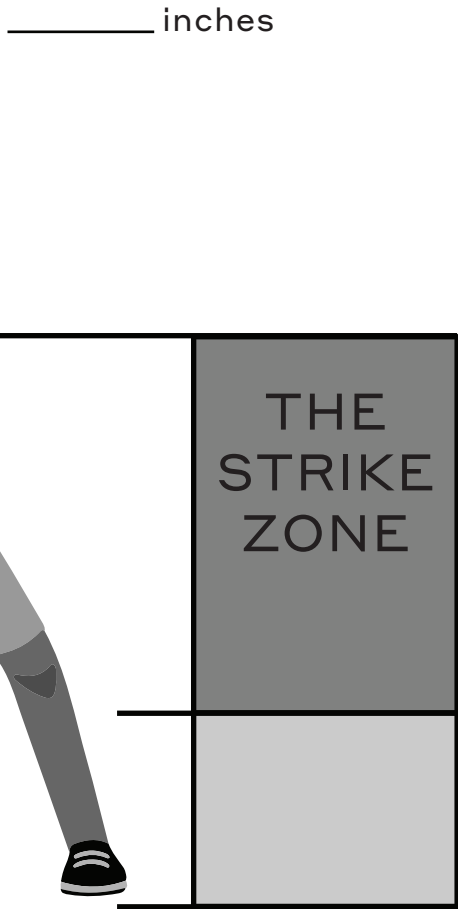
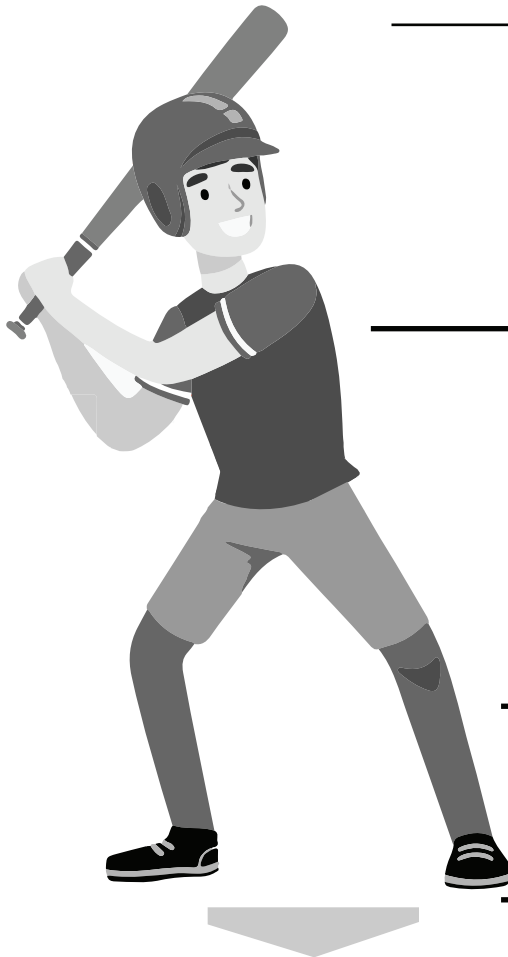


Shape of home plate?

Perimeter of home plate?
_____ inches

Shape of strike zone?

Area of strike zone?
_____ inches



Q: Who had the smallest strike zone in MLB history?

A. Eddie Gaedel