

Common Core Assessment – Hands-on Style!

SUMMARY

Much has been written about how the new education standards will alter the content and format of student assessments. New tests will need to be able to assess learning growth in diverse populations. They should measure student learning throughout the school year, and give children many opportunities to apply higher-level thinking skills and problem solving strategies.

The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) and other organizations are well on their way to developing new tools to work with the new standards.

USE RAFT HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES TO TEACH THE SKILLS

In many cases, hands-on activities are ideal vehicles for teaching students the skills they will need to demonstrate on the test. Below are examples of Common Core mathematics questions (**on the left**) with clear connections to RAFT hands-on activities (**on the right**):

PERIMETER

43022

A rectangle is 6 feet long and has a perimeter of 20 feet.

What is the width of this rectangle? Explain how you solved this problem.

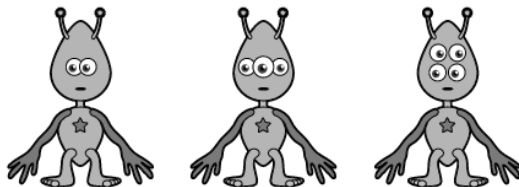
Area Antics uses small wood blocks to make the concepts of area, perimeter, and volume more concrete to young learners.



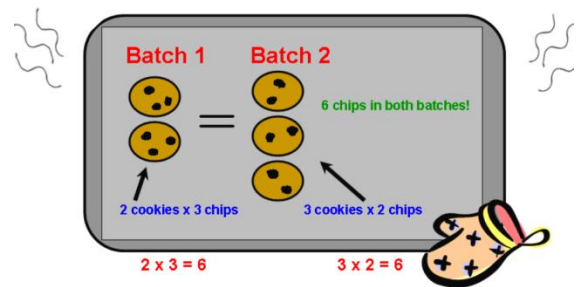
<http://www.raft.net/ideas/AreaAntics.pdf>

COMMUTATIVE PROPERTY

The two-eyed space creatures, three-eyed space creatures, and four-eyed space creatures are having a contest to create a group with 24 total eyes.



Commutative Cookies helps students see that 3×4 is equivalent to 4×3 .



<http://www.raft.net/ideas/CommutativeCookies.pdf>

FRACTIONS

43051

Five friends ordered 3 large sandwiches.

James ate $\frac{3}{4}$ of a sandwich.

Katya ate $\frac{1}{4}$ of a sandwich.

Ramon ate $\frac{3}{4}$ of a sandwich.

Sienna ate $\frac{2}{4}$ of a sandwich.

How much sandwich is left for Oscar?



<http://www.raft.net/ideas/Frack Jack.pdf>

Frack Jack helps students add fractions.

VOLUME

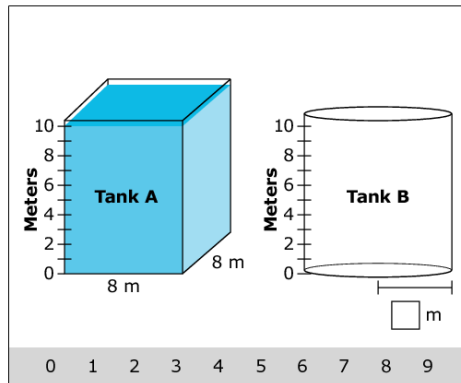
42968

Two water tanks are shown. Tank A is a rectangular prism and Tank B is a cylinder. The tanks are not drawn to scale.

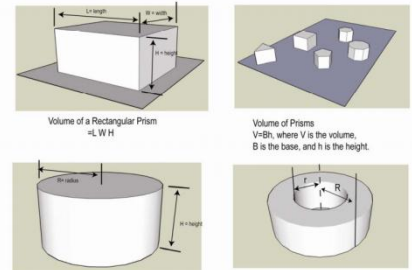
Tank A is filled with water to the 10-meter mark.

Click Tank A to change the water level. The volume of water that leaves Tank A is transferred to Tank B, and the height of the water in Tank B is shown.

Drag one number into the box to show the approximate radius of the base of Tank B.



Volume Formulas



<http://www.raft.net/ideas/Volume Verification.pdf>

Volume Verification shows hands-on learners how to compare the volume of solids.

To see other questions developed by the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium, go to: <http://sampleitems.smarterbalanced.org/itempreview/sbac/index.htm>.

For more RAFT hands-on activities, visit: <http://www.raft.net>.