

QUICK TIP!

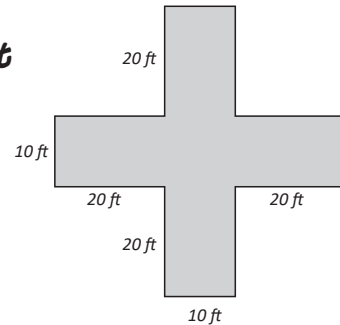
Hey Kids! Time for a super fun math lesson, courtesy of Math Madness!

AREA OF IRREGULAR SHAPES

You can often determine the area of an irregular shape by breaking it up into smaller rectangles or triangles, then adding or subtracting the areas.

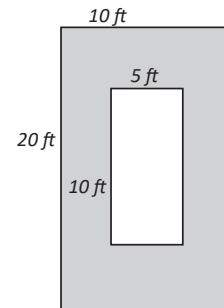
For example, this shape can be broken into five rectangles. Four that are 10ft x 20ft, and one that is 10ft x 10ft. The area is:

$$\begin{aligned} &4 \times 10\text{ft} \times 20\text{ft} + 10\text{ft} \times 10\text{ft} \\ &= 4 \times 200\text{ft}^2 + 100\text{ft}^2 \\ &= 900\text{ft}^2 \end{aligned}$$



For this shape, we need to use subtraction to determine the grey colored area. We can subtract the area of the inner rectangle from the area of the outer rectangle.

$$\begin{aligned} &20\text{ft} \times 10\text{ft} - 10\text{ft} \times 5\text{ft} \\ &= 200\text{ft}^2 - 50\text{ft}^2 \\ &= 150\text{ft}^2 \end{aligned}$$

**TRY IT!**

Calculate the area of the shapes below

