

Making Square Feet and Square Yards

Supplies

- At least 3 different colors of 1 inch graph paper
 - Provide each student make with 1 set of 3 sheet of the same color
 - Scissors and tape
1. Use three different colors of paper to make copies of 1” graph paper
 2. Distribute 3 sheets of 1” graph paper of the same color, scissors, and tape to pairs of students.
 3. Review that a square foot is one foot long on each side and that one foot is equal to 12 inches.
 4. Ask students to use their paper to make a square foot.
 5. Ask how many square inches there are in a square foot. (Note that while many children will readily see a 12X12 array and get 144 square inches, some may not.)
 6. Next ask how many feet make a yard.
 7. Tape 2 yardsticks on the board to form the length and the width of a square yard.
 8. Have students fasten square feet to the board inside the yardsticks until a square yard is formed. (Choose a variety of colors, arranging them so that it is easy to see each of the 9 square feet)
 9. Count to check there are 9 square feet in the square yard.
 10. Ask how many square inches there are in a square yard. Encourage students to show different ways to figure this out. POSSIBLE ANSWERS: 9×144 , OR $12 \times 12 + 12 \times 12$ OR 36×36 ETC. Record all equations. Students could check using a calculator.
 11. Display the square yard model for reference.

