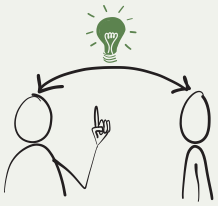
SPICY

How many cubic feet of dirt (volume) do I need if my garden is

A. 3 ft × 6 ft × 2 ft?

B. 10 ft × 7 ft × 3 ft?

C. 12 ft × 5 ft × 2 ft?



Author Notes

Students tend to understand how to solve these questions quite easily. It is important to note that by drawing the grid of the garden bed, the students have a visual aid to reason with to bridge the pictorial to abstract. With the Type 3 questions, linking cubes are incredibly helpful and should be used for everyone because the concrete promotes the abstract sense making. Each type of question eventually introduces the perimeter, area, and volume language to apply this task more widely later. This task could also easily be adapted to be only perimeter, area, or volume.

Notes to My Future Forgetful Self

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