Two for One Box Company: Teacher Notes



Does a box twice as big hold twice as much? (Twice as big here means doubling each dimension)

Group Arrangement Students work individually or in pairs

Tools

- Several sheets of 1 centimeter square grid paper
- Quantity of 1 centimeter cubes for each group
- Handouts for each student
- Scissors
- Tape

Procedure

1. Have students draw a net (a two-dimensional pattern that can be formed to make a solid) for making an open top box on the grid paper for each of the sets of dimensions listed below.



- 2. Cut out the net and fold up each side to form the open box and tape the sides.
- 3. Find the volume of the box by filing it with 1 centimeter cubes, and record the results in a table such as the one below.

BOX	DIMENSIONS	VOLUME
А	2 X 2 X 2	
В	3 X 3 X 3	
С	4 X 4 X 4	
D	5 X 5 X 5	
Е	2 X 4 X 6	
F	2 X 3 X 4	

- 4. Write a ratio between the first dimension of Box A and Box B.
- 5. Write a ratio between the volumes of Box A and Box B.
- 6. Are they equivalent?
- 7. If not, what can you do to the ratio of dimensions to make it equivalent to the ratio of volumes?
- 8. How would you change the dimensions of a box to ensure that the volume is doubled?

Math Connection

As a result of this activity, students will understand how changing dimensions of a figure affects its volume.

Assessment

Have students find volumes for several different prisms when given the ratio of the dimensions of the prism and the volume of one prism.