

# Year 4 Perimeter of a Rectangle Guidance

## Activity Outcomes

- Your child will learn that the perimeter is the total distance around a shape.
- Your child will also learn how to measure accurately and calculate the perimeter of a rectangle.

## Setting Up

### What you will need

- Straws, string or sticky tape (something to create a rectangle with)
- Pen and paper (cm square paper could be used – see below)
- Ruler or tape measure
- Dice or digit cards (something to generate a number)

## Activity Guide

### Activity 1 - What is the perimeter?

This activity can be done individually or in pairs.

- Cut the straws into pairs of different lengths. For example, two straws at 5cm and two straws at 7cm.
- Create a variety of rectangles using the straws.
- Measure the perimeter of each rectangle. To embed this skill, your child could label the length of each side and then write a number sentence to calculate it, for instance  $5\text{cm} + 5\text{cm} + 7\text{cm} + 7\text{cm} = 24\text{cm}$ .

### Activity 2 – Roll the dice

This activity can be done individually or in pairs.

- An alternative is to use a dice to roll a total perimeter. For example, roll twice for the numbers 3 and 2. The perimeter would be 32cm.
- Then use the ruler to draw a rectangle with sides that would total a perimeter of 32cm.

### Questions you could ask your child during the activity

- How do you find the perimeter? Is there more than one way to do this?
- How many mm are in one cm?

## Further Support and Ideas

- Go on a perimeter hunt. Find objects in the house in the shape of a rectangle (or other shapes) and measure the perimeter of them. What is the largest and smallest perimeter you can find?
- Watch this idea on YouTube here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IU49xWZY3zM>
- For tutorials, interactive games and more to support this lesson on perimeter visit [kids.classroomsecrets.co.uk](https://kids.classroomsecrets.co.uk)