

Parent Support Sheet Torn Shapes

Some solutions from children

My method for this problem was to count the number of squares along one side, then times them by the number of squares along the other side.

For the rectangles that were made up of two shapes, I first split the single shape into two, timesed the number of squares along the sides of the shapes (separately), then added them together.

Rowena had a slightly different way of finding out the number of squares taken up by each shape. She wrote:

I am going to count the whole squares up and across, then draw the outline of the rectangle, and then draw the squares on to it that weren't there before. I will count the squares and put the total into a table.

Here's Rowena's table:

Rectangle	Number of Squares
Orange	3 down x 5 across = 15
Blue	4 down x 8 across = 32
Green	5 down x 3 across = 15
Yellow	5 down by 6 across = 30
Pale orange	21
Purple	18

For the final shape, James said:

There were 3 in the column for the last puzzle and I could see a bit of a sixth square so the smallest number was $3 \times 6 = 18$. The longest shape had 8 in a row so the most it could have is $3 \times 8 = 24$.