Ayaan's Wallpaper

Story and Illustration by
Mohammad Faizan Aazmi

This is the story of Ayaan, an eight-year-old boy who is very excited because it is his birthday next Sunday. Ayaan wants to invite his friends to his room and have a birthday party.

Apart from decorating his room, he also wanted to makeover his bedroom with a new wallpaper on the wall beside his bed.
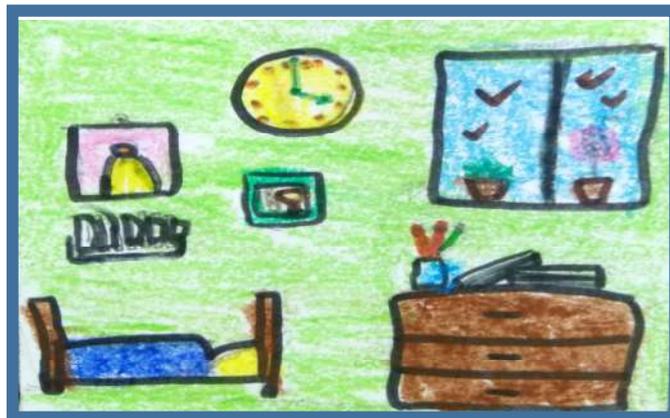
Friends,

Do you want to help Ayaan with his new wallpaper task?

Where do you think Ayaan can get the new wallpapers?

Lets find out!

Ayaan goes to the nearby Piccadilly Street to a new store to pick new wallpapers.

Ayaan wants to be an astronaut when he grows up so as soon as he saw the wallpaper with stars and planets he said, "I love this wallpaper, and I think I will buy this one."

Friends,

Do you think Ayaan knows how much wallpaper he would need for his wall?

Lets find out!

Shopkeeper: Great choice! How many wallpapers do you want?

Ayaan: hmm, I am not sure how many of these I need.

Shopkeeper: Well, what is the area of your wall?

Ayaan: Not sure, how do I know and why I need to know the area?

Shopkeeper: The area will determine the number of these sheets you need.

Friends,

Do you think Ayaan need to take one wallpaper, take it back home and measure how many of these wallpapers are needed? Not exactly, there is a shortcut method.

Do you know?

Ayaan: How do I find the area of the wall?

Shopkeeper: Good Question! Look at this Rubik's cube. How many blocks are there on one side?

Ayaan: hmm, one, two, three.... There are nine blocks

Shopkeeper: Good! So the area of one side of this cube is nine blocks.

Ayaan: Okay, but how do I calculate area for the wall, as there are no blocks.

Shopkeeper: Great Question, smart boy! Look at the cube again, how many blocks are there on two edges of the block.

Ayaan: Three on each side.
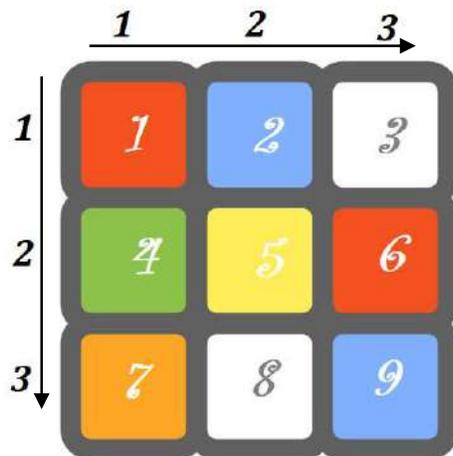
Shopkeeper: Good! Now just multiply the number of these two sides and you will get the area of the cube.

Ayaan: $3 \times 3 = 9$; so the area is 9 blocks, Wow! That's simple.

Shopkeeper: Now for your wall you need to calculate the size of the two sides of the wall. The longer side is called length (l) and shorter side will be called breadth (b).

Ayaan: I got it. I will call my brother Faizan and ask him to measure it for me.

Do you think now Ayaan can apply the formula and know how many wallpapers he need? Let's see.

Ayaan: The length of the wall is 10 feet and breadth is 8 feet.

length = 10 feet

breadth = 8 feet
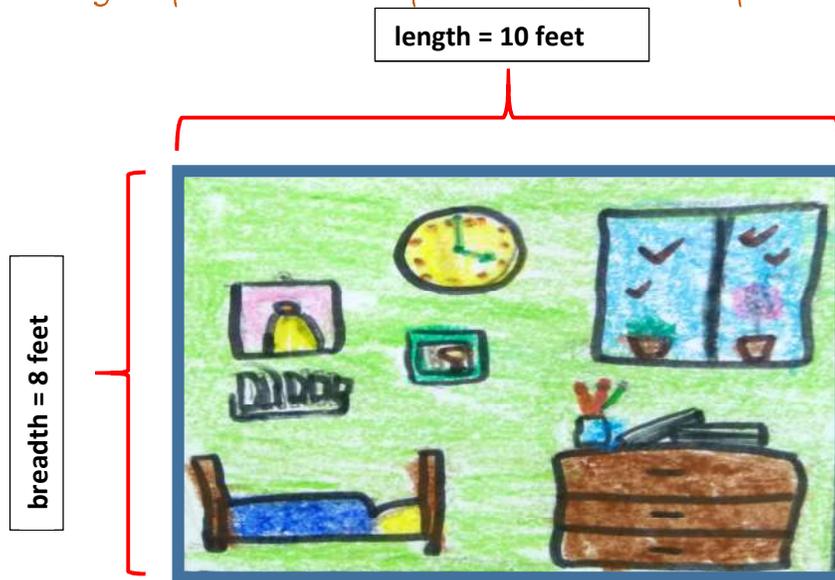
Shopkeeper: Good! Now can you calculate the area of the wall?

Ayaan: Yes, I would multiple length with breadth.

Length X breadth = area

10 X 8 = 80 square feet

Ayaan: The area is 80 square feet, so how many sheets I would need.

Shopkeeper: Good! The area of each sheet is one square feet, so can you tell how many you would need for your wall of 80 sq. feet?

Ayaan: Yes! I would need 80 sheets

Shopkeeper: Awesome! There you go, I have packed some extra in case you mess up some of them while pasting. You are a smart kid!

Friends,

Thanks you so much for helping Ayaan with his favorite wallpaper and helping him in understanding how to calculate the area and how much wallpaper he needs.

Ayaan finally learnt how to calculate the area and was able to get the right number of wallpapers

Do you know you would need to calculate area when buying other things also like carpets, flooring tiles, painting, bedsheets, curtains and many other things?