



## Area of a School



*Essential Questions: What is the minimum amount of space we need in order to build the school in Florida? What is the best amount of space to use for the school?*

### Overview

The Florida school you have been asked to build has to support up to 2000 students. The school board has predicted this number based on the population growth for this area of Florida. What you do not know is how much land area this school needs to support those 2000 students. How much space per student does a school require? Today, you will answer this question. You will also consider which parts of a school are necessary and which are optional. Keep good notes on what you discuss because you will use them again when you make your final decision in Chapter 6.

### Materials

For each group:

- 1 tape measure

### Procedure

1. In a small group, brainstorm out all the different spaces needed for a school. Use the following questions to help you in your brainstorm:
  - a. How many classrooms do you need for each subject area?
  - b. Are all classrooms the same size?
  - c. What other spaces are needed? (ex. lunchroom, gym, theater, etc...)
2. Narrow down your list to all the different places you think should be in a school.
3. Make a chart listing all the different types of spaces you think a school needs and how much area you think those spaces take up.

School Spaces	Estimated Area of this Space

4. Estimate how much space you think each of those places contains. To make your estimations, measure the length and the width of a corresponding room in your school with a tape measure.

For example, if you are thinking about space for a science classroom, measure the length and width of your science classroom and multiply those two numbers. This will tell you the total area.