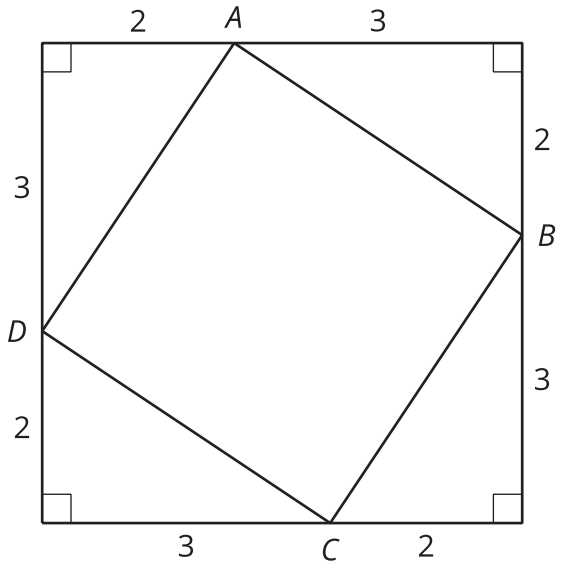
Lesson 2: Square Roots and Cube Roots

- Let's think about square and cube roots.

2.1: It's a Square

Find the area of square $ABCD$.



2.2: Squares and Their Side Lengths

1. Complete the table with the area of each square in square units, and its exact side length in units.

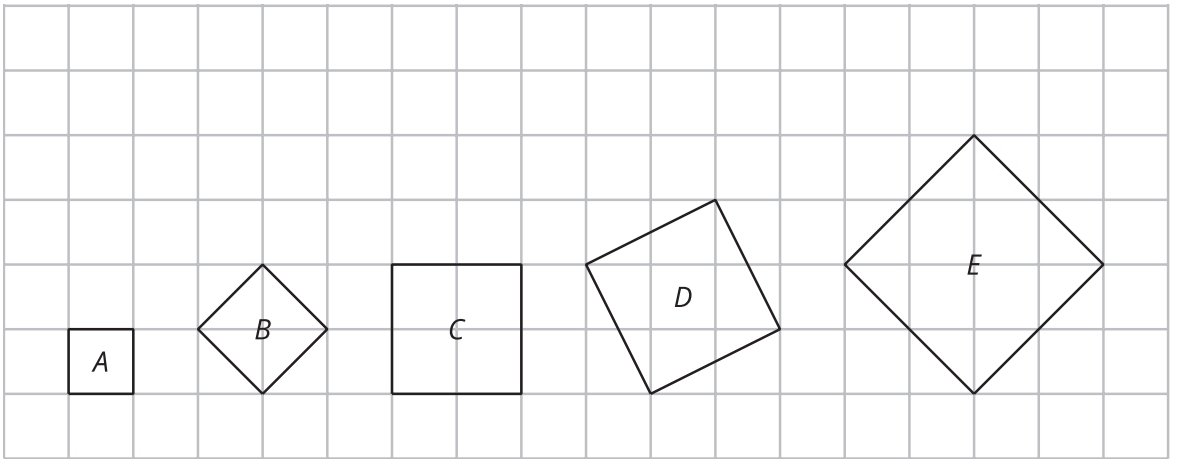


figure	A	B	C	D	E
area					
side length					

2. This table includes areas in square units and side lengths in units of some more squares. Complete the table.

area	9		23		89
side length		4		6.4	

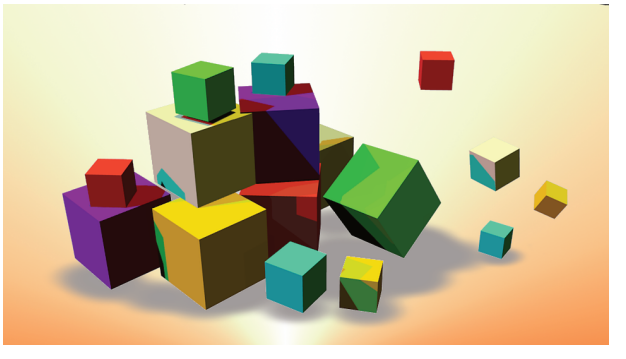
Are you ready for more?

In the first question, all of the squares have vertices at grid points.

1. Is there a square whose vertices are at grid points and whose area is 7 square units? Explain how you know.

2. Is there a square whose vertices are at grid points and whose area is 10 square units? Explain how you know.

2.3: Cube It



1. A cube has edge length 3 units. What is the volume of the cube?

2. A cube has edge length 4 units. What is the volume of the cube?

3. A cube has volume 8 units. What is the edge length of the cube?

4. A cube has volume 7 units. What is the edge length of the cube?

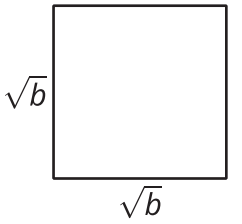
5. $\sqrt[3]{1{,}200}$ is between 10 and 11 because $10^3 = 1{,}000$ and $11^3 = 1{,}331$. Determine the whole numbers that each of these cube roots lies between:

$\sqrt[3]{5}$ $\sqrt[3]{10}$ $\sqrt[3]{50}$ $\sqrt[3]{100}$ $\sqrt[3]{500}$

between	1 and 2	2 and 3	3 and 4	4 and 5	5 and 6	6 and 7	7 and 8	8 and 9

Lesson 2 Summary

If a square has side length s, then the area is s^2. If a square has area A, then the side length is $\sqrt{A}$. For a positive number b, the square root of b is defined as the positive number that squares to make b, and it is written as $\sqrt{b}$. In other words, $\left(\sqrt{b}\right)^2 = b$. We can also think of $\sqrt{b}$ as a solution to the equation $x^2 = b$. This square has an area of b because its sides have length $\sqrt{b}$:



Similarly, if a cube has edge length s, then the volume is s^3. If a cube has volume V, then the edge length is $\sqrt[3]{V}$. The number $\sqrt[3]{a}$ is defined as the number that cubes to make a. In other words, $\left(\sqrt[3]{a}\right)^3 = a$. We can also think of $\sqrt[3]{a}$ as a solution to the equation $x^3 = a$. This cube has a volume of a because its sides have length $\sqrt[3]{a}$: