



Surface Area of a Kite

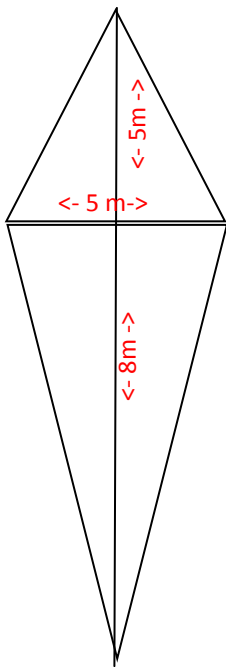
Alexander Graham Bell and his team of inventors needed a lot of math.

One of the important elements of a kite is to know its surface area.

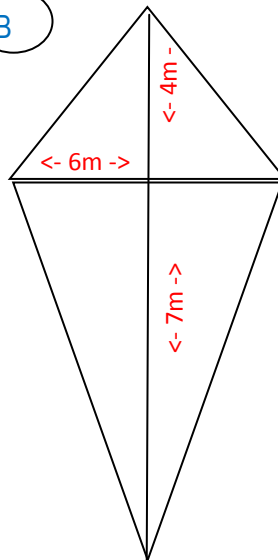
Can you figure out which one of the three kites has the biggest surface area?

(They may not be completely drawn to scale)

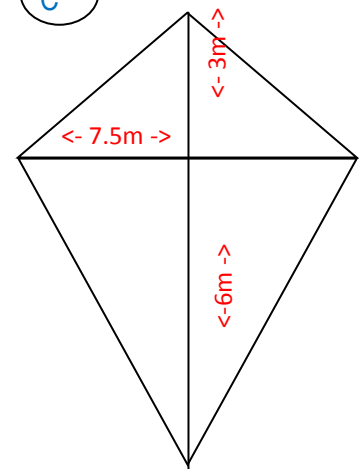
A



B



C



If you need help, start here:

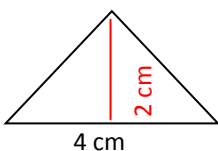
Squares and rectangles are the easiest shapes when you want to calculate surface areas.



All you need to do is to multiply the length of two sides that are touching each other.

In our example that would be $2\text{cm} \times 4\text{cm} = 8\text{cm}^2$

The surface area of a triangle is a little trickier to calculate but its not that hard either.



You again need two numbers, this time the base and the height from the peak to the base but then divide your result by 2. (Anyone of the three sides can be your base.)

In our example that would be $2\text{cm} \times 4\text{cm} = 8\text{cm}^2 : 2 = 4\text{cm}^2$

When look at our kites, you will see that each is made up of two triangles. Now you should be able to calculate which one has the biggest surface area.