

Cut the Bunny – Class Handout

During this activity, you will work in a group to think of clever ways to approximate the area of an abstract shape that you cut out of the colored paper given to you by your instructor.

1. Use your scissors to cut out a shape with curved edges. Use the majority of the area of the paper for your shape.
2. Use the centimeter ruler copied onto the bottom of this page as you attempt to estimate the area of your shape. **Make records of all of your efforts that indicate both your ideas for finding the area and your estimation of the area.** Be sure to record any difficulties. If you get stuck, consider the following questions, not necessarily one at a time.
 - What techniques do you know for finding areas of geometric objects?
 - For what types of geometric objects do you know formulas for the area?
 - If your shape was simply comprised of these geometric objects, would you be able to find its exact area? Articulate the obstacle to finding the exact area of your shape here.
 - Are there perhaps some geometric objects that approximate the area less precisely that avoid this obstacle?
 - How can conceiving of your area as divided into regions help you in the process of determining the total area?
 - Are there special considerations or efficiencies that come from dividing the region into areas in the way that you have? (For example, in what order do you need to add your areas?)

