Rectangles: Perimeter vs. Area

Cut out each of the rectangles below. Then use them to work through the questions on the next page. All measurements will be "in squares," ex., 4 squares by 4 squares.

For each situation, be sure that each square overlaps another square on at least one full side. For example, this is acceptable: ______ but this is not: _____



Shaping Up! EFF mini-course ©2012, University of Tennessee Center for Literacy Studies

 Using all the tiles from the previous page, move your tiles around and determine what arrangement of squares you think creates the largest perimeter. Once you have created this arrangement/shape with your tiles, sketch the result below. What is the perimeter (in squares)? What is the area (in squares)?

2. Using all the tiles from the previous page, determine what shape you think creates the smallest perimeter. Once you have created this arrangement/shape with your tiles, sketch the result below. What is the perimeter? What is the area?

3. What statement can you make about perimeter and area based on your two shapes above?

4. Organize six of your tiles into the shape shown below. What happens when you add just one tile to this shape? (Sketch in where you added your tile.) How does it impact the perimeter? How does it impact the area? Try adding just one tile in different places. What happens? (Make more sketches to support your answers.)



Return to Slide 6

Shaping Up! EFF mini-course ©2012, University of Tennessee Center for Literacy Studies