

The Yellow Blocks

The yellow blocks are used to show whole numbers. Find these blocks in your Lab Gear Box.



1



5



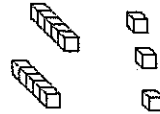
25

Put out blocks to match these collections. Write the number that is shown by the blocks.

1.



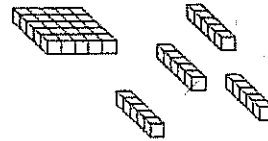
2.



3.

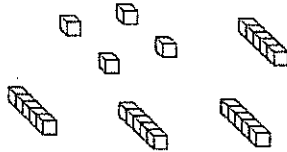


4.

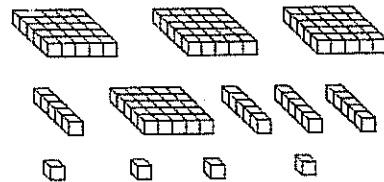


Use your blocks to show these numbers. Circle blocks in the figure to show the blocks you used.

5. 15



6. 51



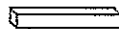
Notice that the 25-block is a 5-by-5 square. In algebra, the multiplication 5 times 5 is written $5 \cdot 5 = 25$, or $5(5) = 25$. It is not written 5×5 , because the \times sign looks like the letter x , which is often used in algebra.

The Blue Blocks

The blue blocks are used to show variables. Variables are named by letters. Find these blocks in your Lab Gear Box.



x



y

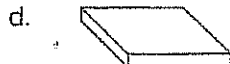
- Write a way to remember which block is x , and which is y .

- Put out a block to match each picture. Find the name for each block in the box below. Write the block names on each line.











5 times x (write $5x$)
 x times x (write x^2)

5 times y (write $5y$)
 y times y (write y^2)

x times y (write xy)

- Explain why x^2 is read "x squared."
