

## Family Letter

### Dear Parent or Guardian:

We use mathematical skills in many of the things that we do. One of the goals of this class is to show students how the information they are learning in the classroom is relevant to the real world. For example, understanding area and volume is useful in such diverse fields as geography, navigation, sports, and architecture.

In **Chapter 14, Geometry: Measuring Area and Volume**, your child will learn how to find the areas of parallelograms, triangles, and circles. Your child will also explore three-dimensional figures and find the volume and surface area of rectangular prisms. In the study of this chapter, your child will complete a variety of daily classroom assignments and activities and possibly produce a chapter project.

By signing this letter and returning it with your child, you agree to encourage your child by getting involved. Enclosed is an activity that you can do with your child that also relates the math we will be learning in Chapter 14 to the real world. You may also wish to log on to the **Online Study Tools** for self-check quizzes, Parent and Student Study Guide pages, and other study help at **[www.msmath1.net](http://www.msmath1.net)**. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact me at school.

Sincerely,

Signature of Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## Family Activity

### Finding Areas of Triangles

Work with a family member. Find three triangles in your home. For example, you might find triangles on a food container, in a tile pattern, in a wallpaper pattern, or even in a painting. You can also create triangles by drawing the diagonal of a rectangular object. You will need a ruler or tape measure to complete this activity.

1. Describe the first triangle you found. Use a ruler to measure the height and the base of the triangle. Record the measurements.

Height:

Base:

2. The area of a triangle is  $\frac{1}{2}$  its base times its height. What is the area of the first triangle?

3. Describe the second triangle you found. Use a ruler to measure the height and the base of the triangle. Record the measurements in the space below.

Height:

Base:

4. What is the area of the second triangle?

5. Describe the third triangle you found. Use a ruler to measure the height and the base of the triangle. Record the measurements in the space below.

Height:

Base:

6. What is the area of the third triangle?