Find Areas of Rectilinear Figures

Materials: pack of rectilinear figures, grid paper

1. Choose a rectilinear figure from the pack. Sketch the figure. Show how you can decompose the figure into smaller rectangles using a horizontal or vertical line.

2. Write a multiplication equation to find the area of each of the smaller rectangles in square units.

3. Add the products to find the total area of the figure.

4. Repeat with other rectilinear figures from the pack.

5. Share your work with a classmate. Find one example where you broke apart a figure in a different way than your classmate. Explain why you found the same total area.

6. Draw your own rectilinear figures on grid paper. Find the area of each figure. Show all work.
I decomposed figure ___ using a vertical/horizontal line. One rectangle measured __ by __. The other rectangle measured __ by __.

Another way I could have broken apart figure ___ would have been ..... 

To find the total area of figure ___ I ..... 

Figure ___ had the largest area. It measured ___ square units. Figure ___ had the smallest area. It measured ___ square units.
Rectilinear Figures Pack: Copy onto cardstock and cut out for use in center.
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