Title: How Many Jelly Beans Fit Inside?

Brief Overview:

Students will discover that, even with the same perimeter, a rectangle, a square, a circle, and a triangle will have different areas. They will discover the attributes of a shape that maximizes or minimizes the area. The student will find the area of rectangles, graph data, find the area of a circle, and use the Pythagorean Theorem to find the area of a triangle.

Maryland Content Standards:

- 1.8.1a Recognize, describe, and extend patterns and functional relationships.
- 1.8.1c Determine whether functions are discrete or continuous.
- 1.8.1d Determine whether functions are linear or nonlinear when given graphic examples.
- 3.8.3a Estimate and determine the circumference and area of circles.
- 3.8.3b Estimate and determine the area of figures by measuring, partitioning, and using formulas
- 3.8.3d Determine relationships between length, area, and volume and describe how a change in one measure affects the others.

Grade/Level:

Grades 7 - 9.

Duration/Length:

4-5 days of a 45 minute class period, including either homework or extension time in class and an assessment.

Student Outcomes:

Students will:

- Explain how a change in the length of a rectangle will affect the area of the rectangle and graph the relationship.
- Calculate the area of a circle given the circumference.
- Subdivide a triangle into two triangles, apply the Pythagorean Theorem in order to find missing side lengths, and calculate the area of the triangle.
- Students will use necessary materials(string, graph paper) and math tools (calculators, rulers, etc) to decide which shape yields the highest area, given the same perimeter.