

POST-VISIT ACTIVITY:

# Drawing your Classroom

To complete the post-visit activity, the students will create a floor plan of their classroom. Depending on the time available, students can complete the activity alone or work with a group. In the first portion of the activity, *Starting from Scratch* and *Finding Your Square Footage*, students will find the square footage of their classroom by measuring its length and width. Students can use a tape measure to count out the feet. If a tape measure is not available, students could use their own feet or count floor tiles for an approximate number. Once the length and width is determined, students will multiply the numbers together to get the total. A formula for finding the square footage is given.

In the second portion of the activity, students will need to use the gridded paper to draw their classroom layout. Using the classroom's square footage, students should start by drawing the perimeter. They should then fill the classroom with the furniture found in their class setting. Students should measure the space between the furniture and plot them on the gridded paper. If you're short on time, split the students into groups and have each group take measurements of a certain area in the classroom.

Whether they're planning the layout of a room or an entire building, drawing out a plan helps reduce problems in the building process. Both Lee Chapel and their school started from a blue print.

## What You'll Need:

- **Writing Utensil**
- **Tape Measure (if available)**
- **Extra Grid Paper (optional)**

POST-VISIT ACTIVITY:

## Starting from scratch.

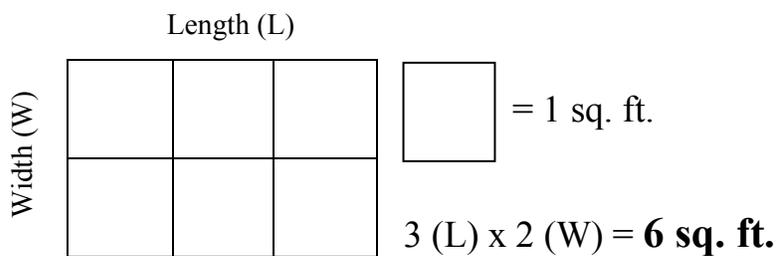
Welcome back from your visit to Lee Chapel and Museum. During your time at Lee Chapel you learned about Lee's plan for a greater gathering place for the students. His wish was granted when construction finished on the chapel in 1868. You learned that before any building can be built it must serve a purpose. It's function should be illustrated through it's **blue print**. It's blue print can be as simple as measurements for a room or it can be as detailed to show windows, doors, lighting fixtures and even sometimes furniture! Lee, Custis Lee and Colonel Williamson drew a plan before construction on Lee Chapel started.

**From your pre-activity, do you remember why your school was built? Write it below.**

---

---

In the next activity, you'll be asked to draw a plan of your classroom, but first you'll need to determine it's area. **Area or the square footage (sq. ft.)** of a room is determined by measuring the length and width of your area and then multiplying those two numbers together.



## What's your square footage?

To get the most accurate length and width of your classroom use a measuring tape. If you don't have one, there are other ways to get a rough estimate. If your floor is tile, then you can count tiles! Just make sure to take in consideration the size of your tiles. You can also walk the two distances by putting one foot in front of the other and counting your steps.

**How many square feet is your classroom?** \_\_\_\_\_(L) x \_\_\_\_\_(W) = \_\_\_\_\_

# Drawing your classroom to scale.

Using the next page, draw your classroom to scale. **What does to scale mean?** We've heard the word scale when measuring the weight of an object or the temperature of air, but in this situation, we mean drawing a smaller representation of something so that it is easier to work with. During your visit, you saw Lee Chapel's orrery. The orrery is a great example of something made to scale so it's easier to study.

On the next page is a 20 x 30 block grid. If you pretend that each block is 1 square foot, you have 600 square feet to work with. Using the grid, map out your classroom. If your classroom is larger than 600 square feet, double the size of a block so that now each block represents 4 square feet. There is an example of a classroom plan below.

Make sure to use the square footage of your classroom to help you start. You should start by drawing the perimeter of your classroom. Next start adding any windows, doors, desks, and chairs in your classroom. Before measuring the distance between the furniture, make sure you're using the best unit of measure to measure with.

