

**Using the Whiteboard**

- Discuss the problem with students.
- Ask a student to use the **Eraser** to reveal the complete table.
- Tap **Math Talk** to reveal a discussion question.

**Teaching the Math**

**Ask:** Why does it not matter which side is the base? *When multiplying two numbers, the Commutative Property of Multiplication allows the factors to be multiplied in any order and the product remains the same.*

**Ask:** Instead of counting squares in rows and columns, can you think of a shortcut for finding the area of each rectangle? *I can use the numbers given for the base and height and multiply them together to find the area.*

**Answer Key**

Figure	Base	Height	Area
	5 units	3 units	15 square units
	2 units, or 8 units	8 units, or 2 units	16 square units
	3 units	3 units	9 square units

**Math Talk**

Possible answer: any side of the rectangle can be used as the base.