## (3) Modelling Multiplication of Two-Digit Numbers

## Modelling a Multiplication Calculation as the Area of a Rectangle

You can solve any multiplication calculation by thinking of the product as the area of a rectangle with the factors as its dimensions. This strategy works for small numbers and large ones.

For example, the product of $3 \times 14$ is the same as the area of a 3 -by- 14 rectangle.


The product of $14 \times 23$ is the same as the area of a 14 -by- 23 rectangle.
Instead of using all ones blocks to model the rectangle, you can use hundreds, tens, and ones blocks.


The area is 2 hundreds +8 tens +3 tens +12 ones

$$
\begin{aligned}
& =200+80+30+12 \\
& =322
\end{aligned}
$$

In any two-digit multiplication, when neither factor is a multiple of 10 , there will be four parts to the model. The parts are related to the number of tens and ones in the factors.

## Modelling a Multiplication Calculation as the Area of a Rectangle (continued)

In the base ten block model of $14 \times 23$ :

- The number of hundreds blocks comes from multiplying the tens
$10 \times 20=200$, or 2 hundreds
- The number of ones comes from multiplying the ones $4 \times 3=12$, or 12 ones
- The number of horizontal tens blocks comes from multiplying 4 ones by 2 tens $4 \times 20=80$, or 8 tens
- The number of vertical tens blocks comes from multiplying 1 ten by 3 ones $10 \times 3=30$, or 3 tens


## Recording the Multiplication

There are many ways to record a rectangle model.

For example, below are two models you could sketch for the base ten block model of $14 \times 23$.


The proportions of the rectangles do not need to be exact. These are simple sketches for recording the important aspects of the model.

## Estimating to Check Products

Estimating continues to be an essential part of any calculation to check the reasonableness of the answer.

There are many ways to estimate a product. It can be done before or after the calculation.

For example, $32 \times 28$ is about $30 \times 30=3 \times 3$ hundreds, or 900 .
$14 \times 49$ is about half of $14 \times 100=1400$, and half of 1400 is 700 .
$24 \times 26$ is about halfway between $20 \times 20=400$ and $30 \times 30=900$.
That's about 650.

## Notes

Conventional numeric procedures are introduced in the next lesson. This lesson focuses on modelling so that students can make sense of the symbolic process and recording.

## Definitions

area: the amount of space in a 2-D shape; the number of 2-D units that cover a space; for example, a rectangle that is 2 units by 3 units has an area of 6 square units
dimension: a measurement of a 2-D or 3-D shape, such as length, width, or height; for example, a rectangle might have the dimensions 4 cm (width) and 5 cm (length)
factor: one of the numbers you multiply in a multiplication sentence; for example, in $2 \times 5=10,2$ and 5 are factors
product: the result of multiplying; for example, in $3 \times 4=12,12$ is the product

