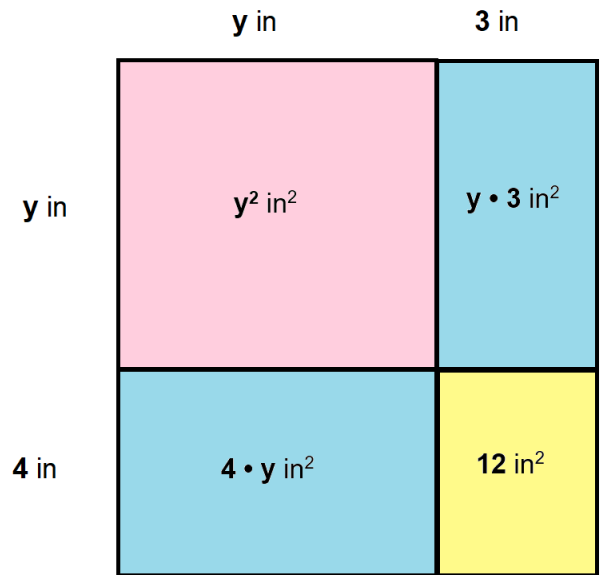


Alexa created a drawing to show the area of Noah's rectangle of fabric. Each side of Zara's square of fabric is  $y$  inches.

Alexa also wrote the following equation to represent the area of Noah's rectangle of fabric

$$(y + 4) \cdot (y + 3) = y^2 + (4 \cdot y) + (y \cdot 3) + 12$$



1. **Pick a value for  $y$  and substitute** it into Alexa's equation to check that the equation is correct.

**Length of Zara's square of fabric:** \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Explain why** Alexa's equation is correct.

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