## CALCULATE THE AREA OF BASIC POLYGONS DRAWN ON A COORDINATE PLANE

- A coordinate plane is a grid on which points can be plotted.
- The horizontal axis is labeled with positive numbers to the right of the vertical axis and negative numbers to the left of the vertical axis.
- The vertical axis is marked with positive numbers above the horizontal axis and negative numbers below the horizontal axis.
- Points are plotted using coordinates which indicate its location: $(5,7)$ or $(-4,3)$ or $(-1,-6)$

- Polygons can be plotted and their sides measured by using the coordinates.
- The area of the region within the sides of the polygon is calculated by using the formula:

$$
\text { Area }=\text { length } X \text { width }
$$

## How to calculate the area of a basic polygon drawn on a coordinate plane:

- Begin by plotting the four points which will be the corners of the polygon.
- The first number in the coordinate indicates the point's position relative to the horizontal axis and the second number places the point relative to the vertical axis.
o A point located at $(6,3)$ is 6 spaces to the right of the vertical axis and 3 spaces above the horizontal axis.
o A point located at $(2,-7)$ is 2 spaces to the right of the vertical

o The polygon is a square that measures 4 by 4
o $A=I \times h \rightarrow A=4 \times 4=16$ sq. units
- The coordinates for a polygon are: $(3,4),(15,4),(3,12)$ and $(15,12)$
o The length is from 3 to 15 along the horizontal axis, 12 units
o The width is from 4 to 12 along the vertical axis, 8 units
- The polygon is a rectangle that measures 12 by 8

○ $A=I \times h \rightarrow A=12 \times 8=96$ sq. units

## Try This!

Plot the points for each polygon and calculate the area:

$(-2,3),(-5,3),(-2,10),(-5,10)$ $\qquad$

