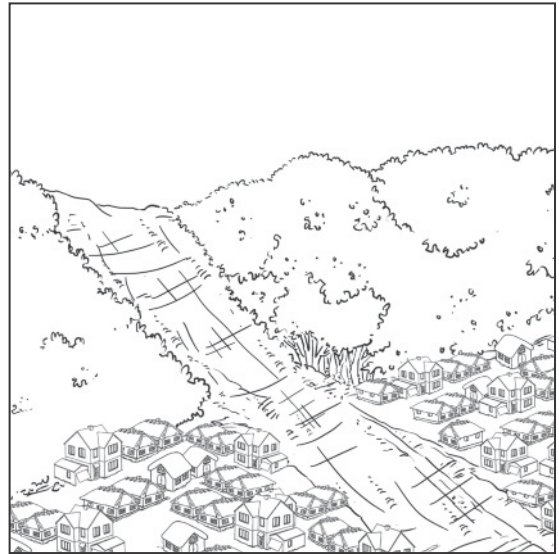Name

Landslides

Did You Know? A landslide is the movement of rocks, earth, or other materials down a slope. Landslides vary in size. Some are so small that no one knows they have happened. Others are very large and destructive. They damage property and harm living things.
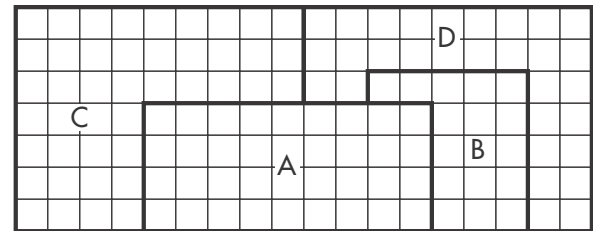
Rainfall, earthquakes, and volcanoes can cause landslides. Man-made activities can cause landslides too. Cutting down too many trees, building roads, and using explosives are just a few examples.

One way to prevent landslides is to build a retaining wall. Leon built a retaining wall in parts.

1 Leon builds sections A and B first. Count the unit squares to find the total area of sections A and B.

53 square units

2 Leon then built sections C and D. What is the area of each of these sections?

Section C = 43 square units; Section D = 30 square units

3 How can you find the area of the entire retaining wall? What is the area?

126 square units; Sample answer: I can add the areas of each section to find the total area.

4 **Extension** Describe another way to find the area of the entire wall.

Sample answer: I can split the total area into 7 × 10 = 70 and 7 × 8 = 56. 70 + 56 = 126 square units