Effect of surface area on evaporation rate

This task is about the relationship between surface area and evaporation.

Task: To show that surface area influences the rate of evaporation

- Trace around the top of these three containers; petri dish, measuring cylinder, 100 mL beaker, on a piece of graph paper.
- Calculate the surface area of each container by counting the squares on the graph paper.
- Pour 25 mL of water into each container.
- Leave the 3 containers in the same place for 3 days.
- Measure the volume of water left.

a) Complete the results chart.

	Surface area	**Original volume of H_2O (mL)**	**Final volume of H_2O (mL)**	**Water loss (mL)**
Petri dish				
Beaker				
Measuring cylinder				

b) i) Which container lost the most water over the 3 days? _____

ii) Why did this container lose more water?

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iii) Explain what happens when water evaporates.

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c) How could the rate of water loss in this experiment be increased?

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