

Measuring Length

2nd Grade

Choosing the unit, and the rules that make a measurement trustworthy.

A measurement anyone can repeat needs a standard unit and a careful start.

PICK A UNIT

1

Small things: centimetres or inches. Rooms: metres or feet.

START AT ZERO

2

Line the object up with 0, not with the end of the ruler.

NO GAPS, NO OVERLAPS

3

If you move the ruler along, start exactly where you stopped.

READ AND RECORD

4

Always write the unit. '14' means nothing; '14 cm' means something.

HANDY BENCHMARKS

1 cm $\approx$ a fingernail · 1 inch $\approx$ a thumb joint

1 m $\approx$ a big stride · 1 foot $\approx$ a school ruler

Estimate before you measure. Being close builds a feel for size that the ruler cannot.