

Measuring Marvels

Directions: Become a Measuring Marvel and measure the following items using a nonstandard unit of measure, like a shoelace, pencil or eraser. Remember no rulers!

What item are you using for your unit of measure? _____

1. Measure the length of your desk. How many units long was it? _____
2. Measure the length of your pencil. How many units is it? You may need to change you unit of measure if it is longer than your pencil. _____
3. Measure the length of your arm. How many units is it? _____
4. Measure the height of a friend. How many units tall is he or she? _____

Units of Measure

Measuring distance: *inch, feet, yard*

Measuring weight: *ounces, pounds, tons*

Measuring volume: *fluid ounces, cups, pints, quarts, gallons*

How would you measure:

1. An ant's weight? length?
2. A hippopotamus weight? length?
3. The weight of a cricket?
4. The length of a monkey's tail?
5. The amount of water inhaled by a puffer fish?
6. The amount of water held in a pelican's bill?
7. The length of a boa constrictor?
8. The height of a giraffe?

Bonus Question

What problem occurred when people used their feet to measure?

Why was this such a problem?

This activity is based on *Millions to Measure* by David Schwartz and illustrated by Steven Kellogg. Find more activities at <http://teacher.scholastic.com/fairs>

