



Mathematics Family Letter, Unit: 3

Dear Family,

Our class is starting a new unit in math about measurement. Students will be investigating linear measurement as it applies to length and distance. We will work with a variety of linear units including standard units of inches, feet, yards, centimeters, and meters. Students will also build on their work telling time as they progress toward telling time to 5 minutes. To finish the unit, students will learn to estimate and measure temperature (Fahrenheit).

Throughout this unit, students will be working toward these goals:

- Recognize that the same count of different-sized units yields different lengths.
- Recognize that, when measuring the same length, larger units yield smaller counts.
- Measure objects using inches and centimeters.
- Use a ruler to measure lengths longer than one foot.
- Tell time to 5 minutes.
- Estimate temperatures in Fahrenheit.
- Use a thermometer to determine temperature in Fahrenheit.

Related Activities to Try at Home

Practice Measuring with a Ruler Look closely at a ruler with your child. Notice the numbers and talk about what they represent. Use the ruler to first measure different objects around the house that are less than 12 inches. Then measure distances and objects that are greater than 12 inches. Compare measurements of the same object in centimeters and inches.

Comparing Jumps This is a good activity for outdoors. Use chalk to mark a starting point and then measure how far different people can jump. Talk about how to measure the jumps and compare the lengths. You might ask, "How much longer is this jump than that one?" or "How much farther would this person need to jump to go the same distance as this one?"

Math and Literature Here are some suggestions for children's books that contain ideas about linear measurement and time. Enjoy reading them together and discuss the mathematics you find.

- Harper, Dan, *Telling Time with Big Mama Cat*
- Keenan, Sheila, *What Time is it?*
- Jones, Carol, *What's the Time, Mr. Wolf?*
- Leedy, Loreen, *Measuring Penny*
- Lionni, Leo, *Inch by Inch*
- Murphy, Stuart J., *Super Sand Castle Saturday*
- Myller, Rolf, *How Big Is a Foot?*
- Pluckrose, Henry, *Math Counts: Length*
- Pluckrose, Henry, *Math Counts: Time*

Sincerely,

The Second Grade Team