

FAMILY MATH

Length Measurement and Comparison

Dear Family,

Your student is learning to measure and compare lengths. They use tools to find how long or tall something is from one end of it to the other end. Students begin by lining up centimeter cubes and transition to using 10-centimeter sticks and cubes. They see that when they measure longer objects, the sticks are more efficient because they can count by tens and then by ones to find the total length. Students compare lengths of objects to determine which one is longer or shorter and they write number sentences with the symbols $<$ (less than), $>$ (greater than), and $=$ (equal to). They draw and label the 10-centimeter sticks and centimeter cubes to show how they measured.

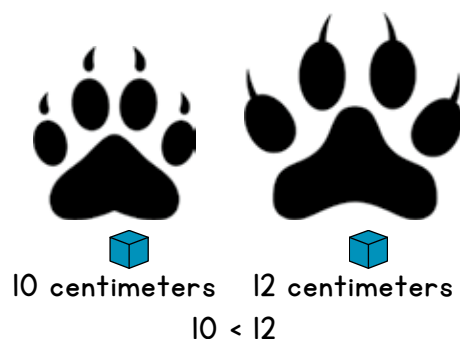
Key Terms

length

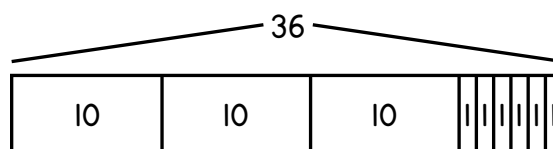
measure



To measure accurately, students line up cubes at their endpoints with no gaps or overlaps.



The leopard paw on the left is shorter than the lion paw on the right because 10 is less than 12.



Your student uses drawings to represent total lengths in terms of tens and ones.

At-Home Activity

Measuring Like A Pro

Help your student develop good measuring behaviors by asking questions about objects around the house like the following examples.

- “If we were going to measure this table, where would we start measuring?”
- “Where would we stop measuring?”
- “What do we call the space between the endpoints of the table?”

Encourage your student to use comparison language, such as *taller than* and *shorter than*, when discussing lengths. Gather items such as a sheet of paper, crayon, coffee mug, pen, etc., and line up the items at their endpoints asking questions such as the following.

- “Which is taller, the coffee mug or the crayon?”
- “Which is shorter, the pen or the crayon?”