

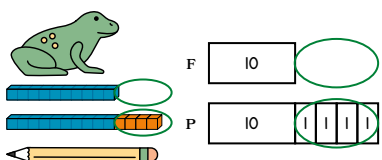
FAMILY MATH

Comparison Word Problems with Measurement

Dear Family,

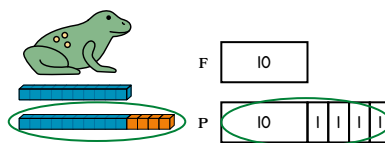
Your student is solving comparison word problems with real-world situations. They use cubes and tape diagrams to measure and compare the lengths of objects to see how much longer or shorter one is than the other. They find unknown lengths by adding to or taking away from the known length. One way to find the difference is to think about the number of cubes in the shorter length that are needed to make it equal to the longer known length, and then add them. Another way is to identify extra cubes in the longer length that do not match up with cubes in the shorter length, and then take them away.

Compare when the difference is unknown.



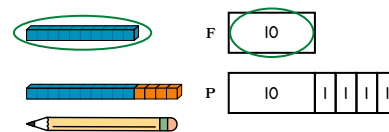
The pencil measures 4 more cubes than the frog measures. The frog needs 4 more cubes to be the same length as the pencil.

Compare when the longer length is unknown.



Your student needs to add 4 cubes to find the length of the pencil.

Compare when the shorter length is unknown.



Your student needs to take away 4 cubes to find the length of the frog.

At-Home Activity

Draw to Compare

Ask your student to compare the measurements of these objects by using drawings to represent their thinking.

- “A cucumber is 17 centimeters long. A carrot is 11 centimeters long. How much shorter is the carrot than the cucumber? What could you draw to show the measurements? How can you find the difference?”
 - Draw a 10-stick and 7 more cubes (17), then a 10-stick and 1 more cube. (11)
 - Take 6 cubes from the length of the cucumber or add 6 cubes to the carrot’s length.

- “A book is 5 centimeters longer than a marker. The marker is 14 centimeters long. How long is the book?” What could you draw to show the measurements? How can you find the length of the book?”
 - Draw a 10-stick and 4 more cubes (14), then draw 5 more cubes (19).
 - Add 5 cubes to the length of the marker to find the length of the book.

If you have a ruler at home, you can also use it to measure and compare objects in the home. Invite your student to make drawings to show their thinking.