

School-Home Letter



Dear Family,

During the next few weeks, our math class will be learning about customary and metric units of length, weight/mass, and liquid volume. We will also learn to compute with mixed measures.

You can expect to see homework on how to use measurement benchmarks and how to compare units.

Here is a sample of how your child will be taught to compare feet and inches.

Vocabulary

decimeter A metric unit for measuring length or distance
1 meter = 10 decimeters

fluid ounce A customary unit for measuring liquid volume
1 cup = 8 fluid ounces

kilometer A metric unit for measuring length or distance
1 kilometer = 1,000 meters

milliliter A metric unit for measuring capacity and liquid volume
1 liter = 1,000 milliliters

ton A customary unit for measuring weight
1 ton = 2,000 pounds

The Multilingual Glossary is available online.

Model Compare Feet and Inches

This is one example of how we will be comparing feet and inches.

Make a table that relates feet and inches.

Feet	Inches
1	12
2	24
3	36
4	48
5	60

Think:

$$1 \text{ foot} \times 12 = 12 \text{ inches}$$

$$2 \text{ feet} \times 12 = 24 \text{ inches}$$

$$3 \text{ feet} \times 12 = 36 \text{ inches}$$

$$4 \text{ feet} \times 12 = 48 \text{ inches}$$

$$5 \text{ feet} \times 12 = 60 \text{ inches}$$

TIPS

Estimating Measures

Use benchmarks to help you estimate measures. For example, the width of your finger is about 1 centimeter.

Activity

Have your child commit basic customary and metric units of measure to memory. Work together to make flash cards with measurement units, and have your child practice relating and comparing units. Use daily activities, such as meals and cooking, as opportunities for practice. For example, "If you start with 1 quart of juice and drink 3 cups, how many cups of juice are left?"