Name: _____ Date: _____

Start Your Ruler at Zero

Circle group

A ruler has lines and numbers. The numbers help us measure how long a thing is. Here is how.

Put the pencil on the table. Line up one end with the zero on the ruler. Zero is where counting begins.

Look at the other end of the pencil. Find the number it touches. That is how long the pencil is. If it touches the 7, the pencil is 7 inches long.

Questions

1. What do the numbers on a ruler help us do?

_____

_____

2. Where should you line up one end of the pencil?

_____

_____

3. What do you look at after you line up the pencil?

_____

_____

4. How long is the pencil if its end touches the 7?

_____

_____

5. Why do you start at zero?

_____

_____

Words to know

ruler: a flat tool with numbers for measuring
measure: to find out how long or big something is
inch: a small unit for how long something is
zero: the number that means none

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Start Your Ruler at Zero

Triangle group

A ruler has little lines and numbers. The numbers help us measure how long something is. Here is how to use one.

First, put the pencil on the table. Next, line up one end of the pencil with the zero. The zero is where counting begins.

Then look at the other end of the pencil. Find the number it touches. That number tells how long the pencil is. If it touches the 7, the pencil is 7 inches long. A friend can check it too.

Questions

1. What do the numbers on a ruler help us do?

_____

_____

2. Where should you line up one end of the pencil?

_____

_____

3. What do you look at after you line up the pencil?

_____

_____

4. How long is the pencil if its end touches the 7?

_____

_____

5. Why do you start at zero and not at the edge of the ruler?

_____

_____

Words to know

ruler: a flat tool with numbers for measuring
measure: to find out how long or big something is
inch: a small unit for how long something is
zero: the number that means none

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Start Your Ruler at Zero

Square group

A ruler is covered with tiny lines and numbers, and those numbers help us measure how long something is. Here is a careful way to use one.

First, lay the pencil flat on the table. Next, line up one end of the pencil with the zero on the ruler, because zero is the place where counting begins.

Then look closely at the other end of the pencil and find the number it touches. That number tells you the length of the pencil. If the end touches the 7, then the pencil is 7 inches long, and a friend can check your work too.

Questions

1. What do the numbers on a ruler help us do?

_____

_____

2. Where should you line up one end of the pencil?

_____

_____

3. What do you look at after you line up the first end?

_____

_____

4. How long is the pencil if its end touches the 7?

_____

_____

5. Why should you start at zero and not at the edge of the ruler?

_____

_____

Words to know

ruler: a flat tool with numbers for measuring
measure: to find out how long or big something is
inch: a small unit for how long something is

zero: the number that means none

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: Start Your Ruler at Zero

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: Start Your Ruler at Zero

Easier · 69 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.2

1. Measure how long something is.
2. With the zero on the ruler.
3. The other end of the pencil.
4. Seven inches long.
5. Zero is where counting begins, so you get the true length.

Triangle: Start Your Ruler at Zero

This passage · 83 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 2.4

1. Measure how long something is.
2. With the zero on the ruler.
3. The other end of the pencil.
4. Seven inches long.
5. Zero is where counting begins, so starting there gives the true length.

Square: Start Your Ruler at Zero

Harder · 101 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.3

1. Measure how long something is.
2. With the zero on the ruler.
3. The other end of the pencil.
4. Seven inches long.
5. Zero is where counting begins, so starting there gives the true length.