Name: _____ Date: _____

Measuring a Boot with Paper Clips

Circle group

You can measure with paper clips. A paper clip is a unit. A unit is what you count.

Here is how to measure a boot.

Set the boot on a table. Put a clip at the heel. Put the next clip right after it. Go to the toe. No gaps. No overlap.

Now count the clips. If you used nine, the boot is nine clips long.

Measure a friend's boot. Use the same clips. If it is eleven, it is two clips longer. Use the same unit each time.

Questions

1. What is a unit?

_____

_____

2. Where do you put the first clip?

_____

_____

3. What should you not leave between clips?

_____

_____

4. One boot is nine clips and one is eleven. How much longer is the second one?

_____

_____

5. Why use the same unit each time?

_____

_____

Words to know

measure: to find out how long or big something is
unit: the thing you count when you measure
heel: the back end of a shoe or boot

overlap: to lie partly on top of something else

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: _____

Measuring a Boot with Paper Clips

Triangle group

You do not need a ruler to measure. You can use paper clips. A paper clip is a unit. A unit is the thing you count when you measure.

Here is how to measure a boot.

First, set the boot on a table. Next, lay one paper clip at the heel. Put the next clip right after it. Keep going until you reach the toe. Do not leave gaps, and do not let the clips overlap.

Now count the clips. If you used nine, the boot is nine paper clips long.

Now measure your friend's boot with the same clips. Is it longer or shorter? If your friend gets eleven, the boot is two clips longer. You must use the same unit every time. Then you can compare.

Questions

1. What is a unit?

_____

_____

2. Where do you put the first paper clip?

_____

_____

3. What should you not leave between the clips?

_____

_____

4. A boot measures nine clips and a second boot measures eleven. How much longer is the second one?

_____

_____

5. Why must you use the same unit each time you compare?

_____

_____

Words to know

measure: to find out how long or big something is
unit: the thing you count when you measure
heel: the back end of a shoe or boot
overlap: to lie partly on top of something else
compare: to see how two things are alike or different

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: _____

Measuring a Boot with Paper Clips

Square group

You do not need a ruler in order to measure something, because you can use paper clips instead. In this case, a paper clip is the unit, and a unit is the thing you count whenever you measure.

Here is how to measure a boot with them.

First, set the boot flat on a table. Next, lay one paper clip at the heel, and place the following clip directly after it. Continue all the way to the toe, making sure that you leave no gaps and that the clips never overlap.

Then count the clips. If you used nine, the boot is nine paper clips long.

Next, measure your friend's boot with the very same clips. If it takes eleven, that boot is two clips longer. You must use the same unit every time so that you can compare fairly.

Questions

1. What is a unit?

_____

_____

2. Where do you lay the first paper clip?

_____

_____

3. What should you make sure not to leave between the clips?

_____

_____

4. One boot measures nine clips and another measures eleven. How much longer is the second one?

_____

_____

5. Why is it important to use the same unit every time you compare?

_____

_____

Words to know

measure: to find out how long or big something is
unit: the thing you count when you measure
heel: the back end of a shoe or boot
overlap: to lie partly on top of something else
compare: to see how two things are alike or different

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: Measuring a Boot with Paper Clips

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

Circle: Measuring a Boot with Paper Clips

Easier · 89 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.4

1. What you count when you measure.
2. At the heel of the boot.
3. Gaps.
4. Two clips longer.
5. Different units cannot be compared fairly.

Triangle: Measuring a Boot with Paper Clips

This passage · 128 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.5

1. The thing you count when you measure.
2. At the heel of the boot.
3. Gaps.
4. Two clips longer.
5. Different units would give numbers that cannot be compared fairly.

Square: Measuring a Boot with Paper Clips

Harder · 140 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 4.5

1. The thing you count when you measure.
2. At the heel of the boot.
3. Gaps.
4. Two clips longer.
5. Measurements in different units cannot be compared fairly.