

Length



To measure the length of something you can use non-standard units. You can use handspans, digits, strides and cubits. The only problem with this, is that everyone has different size of hands and fingers! So now we use metric units. We measure in CENTIMETRES (cm), METRES (m)

Practice measuring with your ruler at home. Be careful to always start at zero on your ruler.

We use centimetres when we are measuring something short and metres when it is long.

1 metre = 100 centimetres

Examples:

- A standard ruler is 30cm long.
- A classroom door is approximately 2m high
- An average 10-11 year old is 130-150cm tall.

Weight



Children in year 3 should be able to compare objects by their weight using the following language: light/lighter/lightest, heavy/heavier/heaviest. They should be able to use balance scales and their own hands to do this.

Please emphasise to your child that the size of an object does not always correlate with its weight. You can have a large box that is light!

Light objects are weighed in grams and heavier objects are measured in kilograms. There are 1000g in a kg.

Capacity

Capacity is the amount of space in a hollow container such as a bottle or glass. The children will be aware of the terms, litre and millilitres. You can use bottles of juice at home to investigate this.

1 litre = 1000 millilitres

