

Length Detectives

Choose a sensible estimate for each length.

GRADE 2 • 2.MD.A.3

CCSS.Math.Content.2.MD.A.3 "Estimate lengths using units of inches, feet, centimeters, and meters."

NAME _____

DATE _____

PICK A GOOD UNIT

Use inches or centimeters for small objects. Use feet or meters for longer objects. Think about the size of the object before you estimate.

WORKED EXAMPLE

Estimate the length of a toothbrush.

1. A toothbrush is a small object.
2. Inches are a good unit for small objects.
3. A toothbrush is about 7 inches long.

Answer: about 7 inches

PRACTICE 5 problems

1 Estimate the length of a crayon.

ANSWER _____

2 Estimate the height of a classroom door.

ANSWER _____

3 Estimate the length of a paper clip.

ANSWER _____

4 Estimate the length of a school bus.

ANSWER _____

5 Estimate the length of a goldfish.

ANSWER _____

APPLY IT Show your work

1 Nia wants yarn that is as long as her table. Estimate the length of the table in feet.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

2 At a nature center, Eli sees an ant. Estimate the length of the ant in centimeters.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

CHALLENGE One step up

Sam says a school bus is about 10 feet long. Is this a good estimate? Write one sentence with a better estimate and tell why.

WORK SPACE AND ANSWER

PART 1 • PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	Estimate the length of a crayon.	about 3 inches
2	Estimate the height of a classroom door.	about 7 feet
3	Estimate the length of a paper clip.	about 3 centimeters
4	Estimate the length of a school bus.	about 8 meters
5	Estimate the length of a goldfish.	about 5 inches

PART 2 • APPLY IT

1. **about 4 feet** A table is longer than a small object, so feet are a good unit. A reasonable estimate is about 4 feet.
2. **about 1 centimeter** An ant is very small, so centimeters are a good unit. A reasonable estimate is about 1 centimeter.

CHALLENGE

No, a school bus is about 10 meters long because meters are used for long objects.

Accept reasonable estimates that use an appropriate unit for the object. Answers may vary slightly when students give a sensible estimate and explain their thinking.