

Length Difference Detectives

Find how much longer one object is than another.

GRADE 2 • 2.MD.A.4

CCSS.Math.Content.2.MD.A.4 "Measure to determine how much longer one object is than another, expressing the length difference in terms of a standard length unit."

NAME _____

DATE _____

FIND THE DIFFERENCE

Measure both objects in the same unit. Subtract the shorter length from the longer length to find how much longer it is.

WORKED EXAMPLE

A ribbon is 11 centimeters long.
A straw is 6 centimeters long.
How much longer is the ribbon?

1. Start with the longer length: 11 cm.
2. Take away the shorter length: $11 - 6 = 5$.
3. The ribbon is 5 cm longer.

Answer: 5 centimeters

PRACTICE 5 problems

- 1** A toy bus is 10 inches long. A toy car is 8 inches long. How much longer is the toy bus?

ANSWER _____

- 2** A pencil is 9 centimeters long. A crayon is 7 centimeters long. How much longer is the pencil?

ANSWER _____

- 3** A dog leash is 8 feet long. A cat leash is 4 feet long. How much longer is the dog leash?

ANSWER _____

- 4** A blue jump rope is 10 feet long. A red jump rope is 7 feet long. How much longer is the blue jump rope?

ANSWER _____

- 5** A fish tank is 9 inches wide. A bowl is 8 inches wide. How much longer is the fish tank?

ANSWER _____

APPLY IT Show your work

- 1** At recess, Noah throws a beanbag 10 feet. Ava throws a beanbag 7 feet. How much farther does Noah's beanbag go?

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

- 2** Lina has an 8-inch toy dinosaur. Her brother has a 7-inch toy dinosaur. How much longer is Lina's dinosaur?

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

CHALLENGE One step up

CHALLENGE

Three paper strips are 10 centimeters, 8 centimeters, and 7 centimeters long. How much longer is the longest strip than the shortest strip?

PART 1 • PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	A toy bus is 10 inches long. A toy car is 8 inches long. How much longer is the toy bus?	2 inches
2	A pencil is 9 centimeters long. A crayon is 7 centimeters long. How much longer is the pencil?	2 centimeters
3	A dog leash is 8 feet long. A cat leash is 4 feet long. How much longer is the dog leash?	4 feet
4	A blue jump rope is 10 feet long. A red jump rope is 7 feet long. How much longer is the blue jump rope?	3 feet
5	A fish tank is 9 inches wide. A bowl is 8 inches wide. How much longer is the fish tank?	1 inch

PART 2 • APPLY IT

1. **3 feet** Subtract Ava's distance from Noah's distance. $10 - 7 = 3$ feet.
2. **1 inch** Subtract the shorter dinosaur length from the longer length. $8 - 7 = 1$ inch.

CHALLENGE**3 centimeters**

Accept answers that include the correct number and matching unit. Students may show subtraction with a number sentence or by counting up from the shorter length.