

Tool Match-Up

Choose the best tool for each measuring job.

MA.4.M.1.1 "Select and use appropriate tools to measure attributes of objects."

NAME _____

DATE _____

USE A RULER

Use a ruler to measure a small, straight object. A ruler works well when the object can lie flat beside it.

Measure the length of a crayon with a ruler.

USE A TAPE MEASURE

Use a tape measure to measure something long or something curved. A tape measure can bend and stretch farther than a ruler.

Measure the distance around a waist with a tape measure.

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle RULER or TAPE for each job, then choose two items and explain how you knew which tool was best.

1. Measure the length of a fork.

RULER

TAPE

2. Find the distance around a basketball.

RULER

TAPE

3. Measure the width of a notebook.

RULER

TAPE

4. Find the length of a classroom wall.

RULER

TAPE

5. Measure the distance around a jar.

RULER

TAPE

6. Measure the length of a key.

RULER

TAPE

7. Find the length of a sidewalk.

RULER

TAPE

8. Measure the width of an index card.

RULER

TAPE

2 PROVE IT Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN One of each

Write one new measuring job for RULER and one new measuring job for TAPE.

RULER _____

TAPE _____

CHALLENGE

A team needs to measure the width of a bookmark, the distance around a trash can, and the length of a school bus. Name the best tool for each job.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Measure the length of a fork.	RULER	A fork is a small, straight object.
2	Find the distance around a basketball.	TAPE	A basketball is curved, so a flexible tape measure works best.
3	Measure the width of a notebook.	RULER	A notebook is a small, straight object.
4	Find the length of a classroom wall.	TAPE	A classroom wall is too long for a ruler to be the best choice.
5	Measure the distance around a jar.	TAPE	A jar is curved, so the tape measure can wrap around it.
6	Measure the length of a key.	RULER	A key is a small, straight object.
7	Find the length of a sidewalk.	TAPE	A sidewalk is long, so a tape measure is the better tool.
8	Measure the width of an index card.	RULER	An index card is small and straight.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **RULER:** Measure the height of a juice box with a ruler.
- **TAPE:** Measure the distance around a tree trunk with a tape measure.

Challenge: Use a ruler for the bookmark. Use a tape measure for the trash can and the school bus.

Accept explanations that connect rulers to small, straight objects and tape measures to long or curved objects. Students may describe a tape measure as flexible or able to wrap around an object.