Paper Clip Paths

Students measure paper strips with same-size paper clips and record whole-number lengths.

MT.1.MD.2 "Express the length of an object as a whole number of length units. Understand that the measurement of an object is the number of same-size length units that span it with no gaps or overlaps."

NAME _____ DATE _____

Teacher: this page is run aloud. The script and answers are on the guide page.

1 MEASURE AND CIRCLE

a	1	2	3
b	3	4	2

2 MEASURE AND WRITE

C	
D	

ANSWER KEY

Paper Clip Paths

GRADE 1 · MT.1.MD.2

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Prepare four paper strips using the lengths in the answer key. Give each group at least five same-size paper clips. Watch students place the clips end to end with no gaps or overlaps before they mark each answer.

Students never read directions on this sheet. Read each part's script aloud, then each prompt, giving think time before students mark.

PART 1 · MEASURE AND CIRCLE

SAY "Use your paper clips to measure strips A and B. Start at one end of each strip. Put the clips in a straight line so they touch but do not overlap."

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	How many paper clips long is strip A? Circle the number.	**2**
b	How many paper clips long is strip B? Circle the number.	**3**

PART 2 · MEASURE AND WRITE

SAY "Measure strips C and D the same way. How many paper clips long is each strip? Write the number in its box."

- Box 1 (beside C): **4**
- Box 2 (beside D): **5**

WHAT TO ACCEPT

Cut and label strips A, B, C, and D to fit exactly 2, 3, 4, and 5 of the same-size paper clips, respectively. Accept the marked answers only when the student measures with clips touching end to end, with no gaps or overlaps.