

Length Detective

Use three classroom objects and a paper strip to compare lengths.

NY-1.MD.1 "Order three objects by length; compare the lengths of two objects indirectly by using a third object."

NAME _____

DATE _____

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

1 RANK THEM _____

A

B

C

2 HELPER STRIP _____

a

pencil

door

same

b

pencil

same

clip

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Gather a paper clip, a pencil, a classroom door, and one strip of paper. Read the scripts aloud and make the paper-strip comparisons where students can watch. Students record the order of three objects, then mark which object is longer after each third-object comparison.

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

PART 1 • RANK THEM

SAY “Look at the paper clip, pencil, and classroom door. I call the paper clip A, the pencil B, and the door C. Which number shows each object's place from shortest to longest, 1, 2, or 3? Write a number in each box.”

- Box 1 (beside A): **1**
- Box 2 (beside B): **2**
- Box 3 (beside C): **3**

PART 2 • HELPER STRIP

SAY “I will use a paper strip as a helper, instead of putting the two objects side by side. Watch me match one end of the strip to an object, mark its end, and compare that mark to the other object. In each row, which choice names the longer object, or do they match? Circle your choice.”

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	I compared the pencil and the door with the paper strip. Which is longer? Read the choices with me, pencil, door, same. Circle your choice.	door
b	I compared the paper clip and the pencil with the paper strip. Which is longer? Read the choices with me, pencil, same, clip. Circle your choice.	pencil

WHAT TO ACCEPT

Part 1: A = 1, B = 2, C = 3. Part 2: Circle door in row 1 and pencil in row 2. Accept clear circles and readable digits.