Ruler Mark Sort

Find out when the end mark tells the length.

2.GM.2.2 "Explain the relationship between length and the numbers on a ruler by using a ruler to measure lengths to the nearest whole unit."

NAME _____ DATE _____

READ THE END

If one end of an object is at 0 on a centimeter ruler, read the mark at the other end. That number is its length in centimeters.

A leaf goes from mark 0 to mark 4. Read the end mark: the leaf is 4 centimeters long.

COUNT THE SPACES

If the object does not start at 0, count the spaces between its two marks. The number of spaces is its length in centimeters.

A twig goes from mark 2 to mark 7. Count 5 spaces: the twig is 5 centimeters long.

1 SORT

8 items

Use a centimeter ruler to check each pair of marks, circle READ or COUNT for each item, then pick one item from each group and explain how you knew.

1. A crayon goes from mark 0 to mark 8. READ COUNT

2. An eraser goes from mark 0 to mark 3. READ COUNT

3. A marker goes from mark 3 to mark 9. READ COUNT

4. A pencil goes from mark 0 to mark 7. READ COUNT

5. A paper clip goes from mark 1 to mark 5. READ COUNT

6. A key goes from mark 4 to mark 10. READ COUNT

7. A toy car goes from mark 0 to mark 9. READ COUNT

8. A block goes from mark 0 to mark 6. READ COUNT

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick one item from each group and explain how you knew.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new object and pair of ruler marks for READ, then write one for COUNT.

READ

COUNT

CHALLENGE

A string goes from mark 3 to mark 11 on a centimeter ruler. How long is it, and why is its length not 11 centimeters?

ANSWER KEY

Ruler Mark Sort

GRADE 2 · 2.GM.2.2

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	A crayon goes from mark 0 to mark 8.	**READ**	It starts at 0, so the end mark gives its length: 8 centimeters.
2	An eraser goes from mark 0 to mark 3.	**READ**	It starts at 0, so the end mark gives its length: 3 centimeters.
3	A marker goes from mark 3 to mark 9.	**COUNT**	It does not start at 0. Six spaces lie between marks 3 and 9.
4	A pencil goes from mark 0 to mark 7.	**READ**	It starts at 0, so the end mark gives its length: 7 centimeters.
5	A paper clip goes from mark 1 to mark 5.	**COUNT**	It does not start at 0. Four spaces lie between marks 1 and 5.
6	A key goes from mark 4 to mark 10.	**COUNT**	It does not start at 0. Six spaces lie between marks 4 and 10.
7	A toy car goes from mark 0 to mark 9.	**READ**	It starts at 0, so the end mark gives its length: 9 centimeters.
8	A block goes from mark 0 to mark 6.	**READ**	It starts at 0, so the end mark gives its length: 6 centimeters.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Task: Pick one item from each group and explain how you knew.
Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **READ**: A sticker goes from mark 0 to mark 2.
- **COUNT**: A comb goes from mark 2 to mark 8.

Challenge: The string is 8 centimeters long. There are 8 spaces from mark 3 to mark 11, and the string does not start at 0.

For Part 2, look for an explanation that READ items start at 0 and COUNT items require counting spaces from a different starting mark. Accept other Part 3 examples when each pair of marks fits its category.