Measure It Right

Choose a tool that fits the length and unit.

3.GM.2.6 "Choose an appropriate measurement instrument and measure the length of objects to the nearest whole yard, whole foot, or half inch."

NAME _____ DATE _____

RULER

Choose a ruler for a small object when you need its length to the nearest half inch.

Measure a button to the nearest half inch.

TAPE MEASURE

Choose a tape measure for a length longer than a ruler when you need the nearest whole foot or whole yard.

Measure a garden path to the nearest whole yard.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle RULER or TAPE for each item; then, for Part 2, pick two items and explain how you knew which tool to use.

1. Length of a classroom wall to the nearest whole foot — RULER TAPE
2. Length of a soccer field to the nearest whole yard — RULER TAPE
3. Length of a spoon to the nearest half inch — RULER TAPE
4. Length of a school hallway to the nearest whole yard — RULER TAPE
5. Length of a pencil to the nearest half inch — RULER TAPE
6. Length of a school bus to the nearest whole foot — RULER TAPE
7. Length of a basketball court to the nearest whole yard — RULER TAPE
8. Length of a notebook to the nearest half inch — 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

Part 3: Write one new object and measurement unit for RULER and one for TAPE.

RULER _____

TAPE _____

CHALLENGE

Challenge: You need to measure a 3-foot shelf to the nearest half inch. Would a 12-inch ruler or a tape measure marked in half inches make the job easier? Explain.

ANSWER KEY # Measure It Right

GRADE 3 · 3.GM.2.6

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Length of a classroom wall to the nearest whole foot	**TAPE**	A classroom wall is longer than a ruler, and the requested unit is a whole foot.
2	Length of a soccer field to the nearest whole yard	**TAPE**	A soccer field is long, and the requested unit is a whole yard.
3	Length of a spoon to the nearest half inch	**RULER**	A spoon is short enough for a ruler, which can show half inches.
4	Length of a school hallway to the nearest whole yard	**TAPE**	A hallway is longer than a ruler, and the requested unit is a whole yard.
5	Length of a pencil to the nearest half inch	**RULER**	A pencil is short enough for a ruler, which can show half inches.
6	Length of a school bus to the nearest whole foot	**TAPE**	A school bus is longer than a ruler, and the requested unit is a whole foot.
7	Length of a basketball court to the nearest whole yard	**TAPE**	A basketball court is long, and the requested unit is a whole yard.
8	Length of a notebook to the nearest half inch	**RULER**	A notebook is short enough for a ruler, which can show half inches.

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**: Length of an eraser to the nearest half inch.
- **TAPE**: Length of a swimming pool to the nearest whole yard.

Challenge: A tape measure marked in half inches would be easier because it can measure the shelf without being moved and lined up again.

For Part 2, accept explanations that connect the object's length and the requested unit to the tool. For example, item 1 needs a tape measure because the wall is longer than a ruler; item 3 needs a ruler because the spoon is short and the measurement must be to the nearest half inch.