LESSON MAKER PRO

Length Unit Detectives

Choose units that fit the length you are measuring.

GRADE 4 · 4.MG.1.a.i

4.MG.1.a.i "Determine an appropriate unit of measure to use when measuring: length in both U.S. Customary (inch, foot, yard, mile) and metric units (millimeter, centimeter, meter);"

NAME _____ DATE _____

PICK A UNIT THAT FITS

Think about the size of the object or distance. Use millimeters for very tiny lengths, centimeters and inches for small lengths, feet, yards, and meters for larger lengths, and miles for far distances. Choose a unit that will not make the measurement number too large or too small.

WORKED EXAMPLE

Choose the best unit to measure the length of a skateboard: millimeter, centimeter, or meter.

1. A skateboard is longer than a very small object, but much shorter than a building.
2. Millimeters would make a very large measurement number.
3. Meters are too large for this object. Centimeters fit best.

Answer: centimeter

PRACTICE 6 problems

1 Choose the best unit to measure the width of a grain of rice: millimeter, centimeter, or meter.

ANSWER _____

2 Choose the best unit to measure the width of a book: inch, foot, or yard.

ANSWER _____

3 Choose the best unit to measure the height of a classroom door: inch, foot, or mile.

ANSWER _____

4 Choose the best unit to measure the length of a driveway: foot, yard, or mile.

ANSWER _____

5 Choose the best unit to measure the distance from one city to another: yard, mile, or inch.

ANSWER _____

6 Choose the best unit to measure the length of a glue stick: millimeter, centimeter, or meter.

ANSWER _____

APPLY IT Show your work

1 The student council is planning a relay across the school field. The field is about 80 ___ from one end to the other. Choose the best unit: feet, yards, or miles.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

2 The class garden is about 15 ___ long. Choose the best unit: centimeters, meters, or miles.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

CHALLENGE One step up

A student is making labels for a music festival map. The concert hall is several miles from the school. Choose the best unit for the thickness of a guitar pick and for this school-to-hall trip: millimeter, centimeter, meter, or mile. Explain why each unit fits.

WORK SPACE AND ANSWER

ANSWER KEY # Length Unit Detectives

GRADE 4 · 4.MG.1.a.i

PART 1 · PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	Choose the best unit to measure the width of a grain of rice: millimeter, centimeter, or meter.	**millimeter**
2	Choose the best unit to measure the width of a book: inch, foot, or yard.	**inch**
3	Choose the best unit to measure the height of a classroom door: inch, foot, or mile.	**foot**
4	Choose the best unit to measure the length of a driveway: foot, yard, or mile.	**yard**
5	Choose the best unit to measure the distance from one city to another: yard, mile, or inch.	**mile**
6	Choose the best unit to measure the length of a glue stick: millimeter, centimeter, or meter.	**centimeter**

PART 2 · APPLY IT

1. **yards** A school field is much longer than a few feet and much shorter than a distance measured in miles. Yards are an appropriate unit.
2. **meters** A garden is too long to measure in centimeters and far too short to measure in miles. Meters are an appropriate unit.

CHALLENGE

Guitar pick: millimeter. School-to-hall trip: mile. The pick is very thin, while the prompt states that the trip spans several miles.

Accept singular or plural forms of each unit. For the challenge, accept another clear explanation that identifies millimeter for the guitar pick and mile for the distance. For open length choices such as the driveway, accept a different listed sensible unit when the learner states a reasonable size assumption and explanation; the challenge trip now has an explicit long-distance premise.