

Tool Detectives

Students use paper clips to compare lengths and connect science tools to their jobs.

1.1.D "use tools, including hand lenses, goggles, heat-resistant gloves, trays, cups, bowls, beakers, sieves/sifters, tweezers, primary balance, notebooks, terrariums, aquariums, stream tables, soil samples (loam, sand, gravel, rocks, and clay)..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

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

1 CLIP MEASURE _____

a	shorter	longer	same
b	longer	same	shorter

2 TOOL JOBS _____

lens	•	•	record
magnet	•	•	see
notebook	•	•	test

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Give each student a pencil and at least three small paper clips. Read every printed choice aloud, point to it as you read it, and let students make each mark themselves. Students use paper clips as non-standard measuring items, then connect common science tools with their purposes.

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

PART 1 • CLIP MEASURE

SAY “We will use small paper clips to measure and compare. Put the paper clips end to end with no spaces, and line up one end before you look at the lengths.”

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Put three small paper clips end to end next to your pencil. Is your pencil shorter, longer, or the same length as the three paper clips? Circle the word that tells your result.	longer
b	Put one small paper clip next to your pencil, with one end lined up. Is the paper clip longer, the same length, or shorter than your pencil? Circle the word that tells your result.	shorter

PART 2 • TOOL JOBS

SAY “Draw a line from each tool word on the left to the action word on the right that tells what the tool can do in a science investigation. I will read each tool word and each action word aloud as you work.”

- **lens** matches **see**
- **magnet** matches **test**
- **notebook** matches **record**

WHAT TO ACCEPT

Clip Measure answers are longer for the pencil compared with three small paper clips, and shorter for one small paper clip compared with the pencil. Tool Jobs matches lens to see, magnet to test, and notebook to record.