Compare Lab

Students test a pencil and paper clip, then record relative weight and length.

1.1 "The student will demonstrate an understanding of scientific and engineering practices by asking questions and defining problems ask questions and make predictions based on observations identify a simple problem that can be solved through..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

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

1 TEST IT

a	clip	pencil	equal
b	pencil	equal	clip

2 SHARE DATA

weight	
length	

Compare Lab

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Prepare one regular wooden pencil and one small metal paper clip for each pair, or demonstrate with one set. Students compare the objects by holding them and lining up their ends, then communicate their observations with circles and letters.

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

PART 1 · TEST IT

SAY "Hold the pencil and paper clip, one in each hand. Then put one end of each object even on the desk. Listen to each question and circle the answer you observed."

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Which weighs more: the clip, the pencil, or are they equal? Circle what you observed.	**pencil**
b	Which is longer: the pencil, are they equal, or the clip? Circle what you observed.	**pencil**

PART 2 · SHARE DATA

SAY "Look at your test results. In each box, what letter shows what you observed: P for pencil, C for clip, or E for equal? Write one letter in each box."

- Box 1 (beside weight): **P**
- Box 2 (beside length): **P**

WHAT TO ACCEPT

For a regular wooden pencil and a small metal paper clip, students should circle pencil in both rows and write P in both boxes. Accept a different recorded result only if the teacher used different objects and the student's observation supports it.