



HELLO PARENTS,

Children start early to learn concepts of measurement in many of their everyday activities. They compare sizes of toys, portions of food or their own height to another's. They learn early that time can be measured too, and ask for "one more minute of play" before cleaning up. When you engage them in cooking and meal preparation, they measure the ingredients by number, volume, or size. During these activities children develop the vocabulary of measurement and comparison, using terms such as: longer/shorter, bigger/smaller, more/less, how much, how heavy, etc. In this newsletter we offer children many ways to measure.

ACTIVITIES

INFANTS (3 – 18 MONTHS)

HEAVY AND LIGHT

MATERIALS:

- Plastic bottles with lids or small cardboard boxes
- Different light and heavy objects such as rocks, feathers, paper, beads, marbles, cotton balls, etc.
- Tape

DIRECTIONS:

- Fill the bottles or cardboard boxes with light and heavy objects (each bottle or box will be different weight).
- Secure the lid with tape for both bottles and boxes.
- Let your child explore the bottles or boxes.
- While the child manipulates the bottles or boxes, make comments about their weight (use the words "heavy", "light", "heavier than", etc.).

[Click here](#) for more activities.

TODDLERS (19 MONTHS – 2.5 YEARS)

MEASURING WITH JARS

MATERIALS:

- Empty jars of various sizes and shapes
- Large plastic container filled with water

DIRECTIONS:

- Line up the jars in front of the container filled with water and let your child explore them.
- As your child is filling and emptying the jars and pouring water from one jar to another, talk about which jar is bigger, which one hold less water, etc.

[Click here](#) for more activities.

PRESCHOOLERS (2.5 – 5 YEARS)

MEASURING OBJECTS

MATERIALS:

- Different objects: books, cars, dolls, blocks, a chair, a table, etc.
- Ruler or measuring tape

DIRECTIONS:

- Let your child choose a toy and practice measuring together using the ruler or measuring tape.
- Have your child go around the house and measure different objects.
- Ask your child which objects they measured were the longest/shortest, exactly the same, etc.

[Click here](#) for more activities.

JK/SK (4 – 6 YEARS)

MEASURING HANDS

MATERIALS:

- Paper
- Pencils, markers
- Ruler or measuring tape

DIRECTIONS:

- Place your hands on the paper and let your child trace them.
- Now you trace your child's hands.
- Have your child trace the hands of other family members.
- Ask your child to line up the traced hands, organize them from the smallest to the biggest, find ones that are the same size, etc.
- Now your child can measure the hands with a ruler or a measuring tape.

[Click here](#) for more activities.

SCHOOL-AGERS (6 – 12 YEARS)

MEASUREMENT SCAVENGER HUNT

MATERIALS:

- Paper
- Pencils, markers
- Measuring tape
- Portable scales (optional)

DIRECTIONS:

- Make a checklist of objects to look for around the house (for example: find something that is 3 meters long; less than 3 cm tall; weighs 1 kg, etc.).
- Once you find an object from the checklist, mark it down.
- Tell your family the results: what was the easiest/hardest object to find, how easy was it to measure certain objects, etc.

[Click here](#) for more activities.

WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU!
PLEASE, SEND US YOUR FEEDBACK, COMMENTS OR
SUGGESTIONS TO CHILDCAREMAIN@NCCE1.ORG



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada

A TIP FOR TODAY

- Encourage your child to measure items using different unusual objects, for example, using a book or a car to measure how long the table is.
- Let your child use scales, measuring cups and measuring spoons to help you with the measurement of ingredients when you cook.
- Use math talk during daily conversation, such as: "you are taller than your sister or brother", "put the smaller cup in the larger cup", etc.