Unit 3, Lesson 1

Anchoring Units of Measurement

Let's see how big different things are.

1.1 Estimating Volume

Estimate the volume of the tiny salt shaker.



1.2 What Do They Measure?

Write each unit in the appropriate column based on whether it measures length, volume, or weight or mass.

centimeter	gallon	kilogram	meter	millimeter	quart
cup	gram	kilometer	mile	ounce	ton
foot	inch	liter	milliliter	pound	yard

length	volume	weight or mass

CC BY NC Illustrative Mathematics, based on IM 6–8 Math, CC BY Open Up Resources.

1.3 Cutting String

Your teacher will assign you one of the following lengths:

1 centimeter, 1 foot, 1 inch, 1 meter, or 1 yard.

Estimate and cut a piece of string as close to your assigned length as you can without using a measurement tool.

1.4 Card Sort: Measurement Benchmarks

Your teacher will give you a set of cards, each with a picture of an object and a letter in the top right corner. Use the graphic organizers to sort the cards with the same letter.

1. Match each picture card that has the letter "L" to a unit of length that is closest to the length of the object.
2. Match each picture card that has the letter "V" to a unit of volume that is closest to the volume of the object.
3. Match each picture card that has the letter "WM" to a unit of weight or mass that is closest to the weight or mass of the object.

Lesson 1 Summary

We can use everyday objects to estimate standard units of measurement. Here are some examples.

unit of length	is about . . .
1 millimeter	the thickness of a dime
1 centimeter	the width of a pinky finger
1 inch	the length from the tip of your thumb to the first knuckle
1 foot	the length of a football
1 yard	the length of a baseball bat
1 meter	the length of a baseball bat and ball
1 kilometer	the distance someone walks in 10 minutes
1 mile	the distance someone runs in 10 minutes

unit of volume	is about . . .
1 milliliter	the volume of a eyedropper
1 cup	the volume of a school milk carton
1 quart	the volume of a large bottle of sports drink
1 liter	the volume of a reusable water bottle
1 gallon	the volume of a large milk jug

unit of weight or mass	is about . . .
1 gram	the mass of a raisin
1 ounce	the weight of a slice of bread
1 pound	the weight of a loaf of bread
1 kilogram	the mass of a textbook
1 ton	the weight of a small car

CC BY NC Illustrative Mathematics, based on IM 6–8 Math, CC BY Open Up Resources.