Year 1 Maths Toolkit Activities - Length

Activity 1 – Comparing heights

Activity Approach
• Pairwork

Resources
• Activity Sheet 1.1
• Resources 1.1 - flashcards ‘short’, ‘tall’ for each pair
• Pupils’ belongings

Instructions
1. Take out a pencil, ruler, your favourite crayon, glue stick, scissors, bottle of water.
2. Compare the length of two pencils and place the short pencil under the ‘short’ flashcard, and the long pencil under the ‘tall’ flashcard.
3. Continue pairing the lengths of the other objects and classify them accordingly.
4. Discuss the lengths of each pair of objects: ‘Maria’s pencil is taller than Joseph’s pencil’.
5. Take out Activity Sheet 1.1 and colour the shorter object.

Activity 2 – Comparing heights

Activity Approach
• Classroom approach

Resources
• Activity Sheet 1.2
• Two pictures of different heights of: boy, giraffe, flamingo, tree, flower, building, flag, crane, ladder, candle, church, windmill.
• Colours
• Scissors
• Resources 1.1 - flashcards ‘tall’, ‘short’ on display

Instructions
1. Give a picture to each pupil.
2. Colour the picture and cut along the outline.
3. Teacher asks: ‘Who has a picture of a child?’
4. Stick the picture of the shorter child under the ‘short’ flashcard and the picture of the taller child under the ‘tall’ flashcard.
5. Take out Activity Sheet 1.2 and circle the taller object.
**Activity 3 – Comparing lengths**

**Activity Approach**
- Pairwork

**Resources**
- Activity Sheet 1.3
- Container with different amounts of cubes
- Strings

**Instructions**
1. Give a container with different amount of cubes and a string to each pupil.
2. Place the cubes in the string.
3. Fill in Activity Sheet 1.3 by colouring the number of cubes used and entering the amount in the appropriate box.
4. Compare the length of the cube strings.
5. Finish Activity Sheet 1.3 by drawing a longer object than the one on the handout.

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**Activity 4 – Estimating and Measuring Length**

**Activity Approach**
- Pair work

**Resources**
- Activity Sheet 1.4
- Soft toys
- Interlocking cubes

**Instructions**
1. Teacher gives interlocking cubes and Activity Sheet 1.4 to pupils.
2. Get out your favourite soft toy.
3. Estimate the number cubes do you think you need to measure the length of the soft toy.
4. Write the estimated length on Activity Sheet 1.4.
5. Measure the length of the soft toy using the cubes.
6. Write the actual length on Activity Sheet 1.4.
7. Draw a picture of your soft toy in the box provided.
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Activity 5 – Measuring length

Activity Approach
- Group work

Resources
- Resources 1.5 - a set of laminated pictures for each group: scarf, railway track, bridge, fish, ship.
- Interlocking cubes
- Whiteboard marker

Instructions
1. Give a set of pictures, interlocking cubes and a whiteboard marker to each group.
2. Take it in turns to place the interlocking cubes on the picture from end to end to measure it.
3. Write the amount of cubes used in the box provided, using the whiteboard marker.

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Activity 6 – Measuring my jump

Activity Approach
- Pair work

Resources
- Blocks

Instructions
6. One child takes a ‘giant step’ and the other child places blocks end to end to measure the distance.
7. Record the amount of blocks.
8. Reverse roles and try again.
Year 1 Maths Toolkit Activities - Length

Activity 7 – Comparing and ordering three lengths

Activity Approach
• Group work

Resources
• Activity Sheet 1.7
• Three different lengths of straws
• Strips of different lengths

Instructions
1. Provide a set of 3 straws to each group.
2. Put the straws in order: from shortest to longest.
3. Glue the strips on Activity Sheet 1.7 from shortest to longest.
4. Provide three strips of papers of different lengths.
5. Repeat Steps 2-3 for the strips of paper.