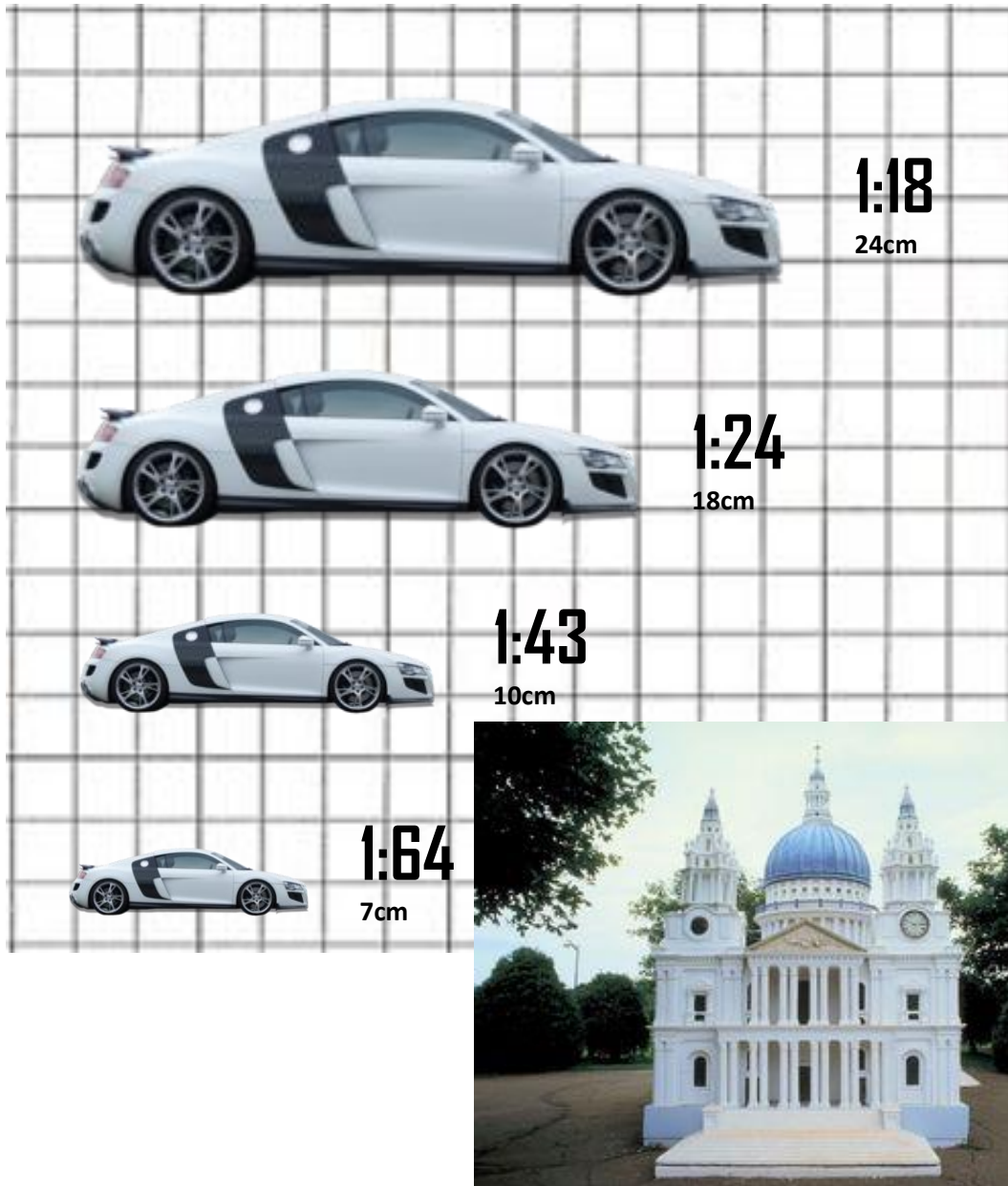


Mars Rover Model Celebration – Lesson Plan



scale:

an exact copy of an object that is either larger or smaller than the original

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Introduction:

One of the new vocabulary words for this unit is scale. Scale has many meanings, but in today's lesson it means "an exact copy of an object that is either larger or smaller than the original". Let's look at two pictures that will help us understand this meaning of the word "scale".

In the first picture, the race car is shown in four different sizes, each a different scale than the original. In the second picture, a scale model of a building has been set on a sidewalk. You can see that the building is much smaller than the tree next to it. Sometimes we refer to these objects as made "to scale".

Example:

Here is another example of scale: One of my brother's hobbies was to make scale models of airplanes that he would hang from the ceiling in his bedroom.

Reflection:

Why would it be useful to have scale models that are smaller than the original? (If your students have difficulty with this question, ask them to think about the two pictures for this word. You might also provide the following example: Architects use scale models of buildings so show customers what the finished building will look like. This way changes can be made before construction starts.) *Answer: The original might be too large to move or for large groups of people to look at easily, could save a lot of money*

For what kinds of things might you want a scale model that is larger than the original object? *for very small objects that are difficult to see (atoms, cells, microbes, molecules)*

Make it personal:

Think for a minute about things you have seen that are made or drawn to scale. Then, I will ask you to share your ideas with a classmate. I will ask some of you to share the items you have seen that were to scale.