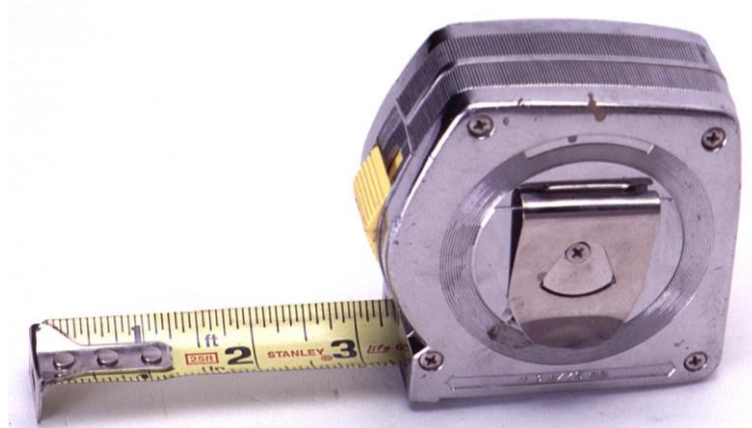


Mars Rover Model Celebration – Lesson Plan



measurement:
a number that represents the length, weight,
temperature, speed, etc. of something

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Introduction:

One of the new vocabulary words for this unit is “measurement”. Measurement means “a number that represents the length, weight, temperature, speed, etc. of something”. You probably already know that you can use a ruler to determine how long something is, but there is much more to measurements than rulers. People make hundreds of different types of measurements every day. People measure how loud a sound is, how bright a light is, how hard an object is, how fast an object vibrates, and much more.

Let’s look at some pictures that will help us understand the meaning of the word “measurement”. Each one of these objects makes a different kind of measurement. You are probably familiar with most of them. A speedometer is used to measure how fast something is moving. Next is a thermometer that tells us temperature. A scale tells us how much something weighs. Next is a barometer which measures air pressure. It helps us to predict the weather. Finally there is a tape measure that measures length.

Example:

Measurements are also used to see how well someone does something. For example, the tests you take at school are measurement of how much you have learned about math, reading, etc. We also use measurements to determine how well someone is performing. Let’s think about athletes. We might measure how fast they run, how well they hit a ball or how many points they score in a game.

Reflection:

I am going to read some sentences. If a measurement is being made, put your thumbs up and say “measurement”. Then, raise your hand to tell me what is being measured. If no measurement is being made, put your thumbs down and remain silent.

- Machines are monitoring a sick patient’s heart in a hospital. (*thumbs up—heart rate and heart beat regularity are being measured*)
- A man drinks coffee and reads a newspaper in a restaurant. (*thumbs down*)
- A policeman uses a radar gun on cars going down a street. (*thumbs up—speed*)
- You have a check-up at the doctor. (*thumbs up—weight, height, hearing, eyesight, etc...*)

Make it personal:

Talk with your neighbor about the different types of measurements with which you are familiar. Pick one of these measurements and come up with several reasons why it is important to be able to measure it. For example, suppose I picked the measurement of “volume (as in loudness)”. This measurement is important so that we can warn people when noises are so loud that they might damage their hearing. Doctors would also use this measurement when they test our ears to see if we hear things normally. Now it’s your turn. I will ask some of you to share your ideas. Be sure to use the word “measurement” when you share with your neighbor.