

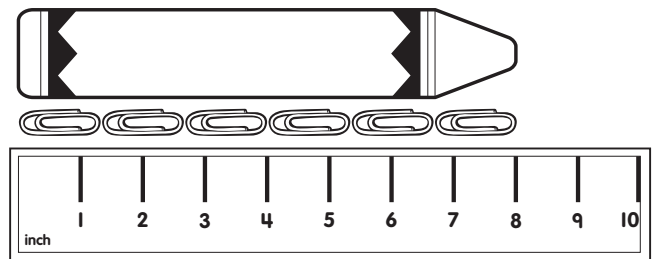
# Measuring the Crayon

## Objectives

- Children will understand length.
- Children will use nonstandard and standard units of measurement.

## Materials Needed

- Measuring the Crayon reproducible
- Construction paper (optional)
- Nonstandard measurement items—for example, paper clips, pennies, or pasta (bow tie or penne)
- Scissors



## Getting Started

- Print out the reproducible and cut out the crayon and ruler.
- To make the ruler and crayon more durable, you can photocopy them onto construction paper.

## Activity

1. Show the crayon and ruler to the child and ask the child how many inches he or she thinks the crayon measures.
2. Have the child predict and then measure the crayon. Show the child how to line up the ruler from one end of the crayon to the other. Prompt the child to count the number of inches.
3. Show the child the items you are using for nonstandard measurement, such as paper clips. Ask the child to predict how many paper clips long the crayon is.
4. Compare the standard and nonstandard measurements.
5. Invite the child to use other nonstandard units to measure the crayon and compare the results with earlier measurements. As the child works, ask questions to engage his or her thinking—for example, *Why did you need more pennies than paper clips?*

## Extended Learning

For more hands-on measuring practice, try our [How Long Is It? Measurement Center](#). It has all the standard and nonstandard tools needed to measure length.

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