

Luke's Flying Start

Units of Measure

- Divide children into small groups.
- Ask this question: *If you didn't have a ruler, how could you measure an object and tell someone how long it is?* Each group should come up with at least one idea.
- Have each group share their idea with the class.
- In a class discussion, ask children what was challenging about coming up with an idea. Why do we use standard units such as inches or centimeters for measuring? What might happen if we didn't use standard units?



Luke's Flying Start

Meter Matchup

- Print out the worksheet on the bottom of this page.
- Divide children into groups and give each group a worksheet.
- Ask each group to find 10 items that are about 1 meter long and list the items on the worksheet.
- The first team to come up with 10 items wins.

These items are all about 1 meter long. What other items can you find that are about 1 meter long?



a German shepherd



a guitar



the long step
of an adult



a golf club



an average
5-year-old kid

1. _____

6. _____

2. _____

7. _____

3. _____

8. _____

4. _____

9. _____

5. _____

10. _____

Luke's Flying Start

Find the Distance

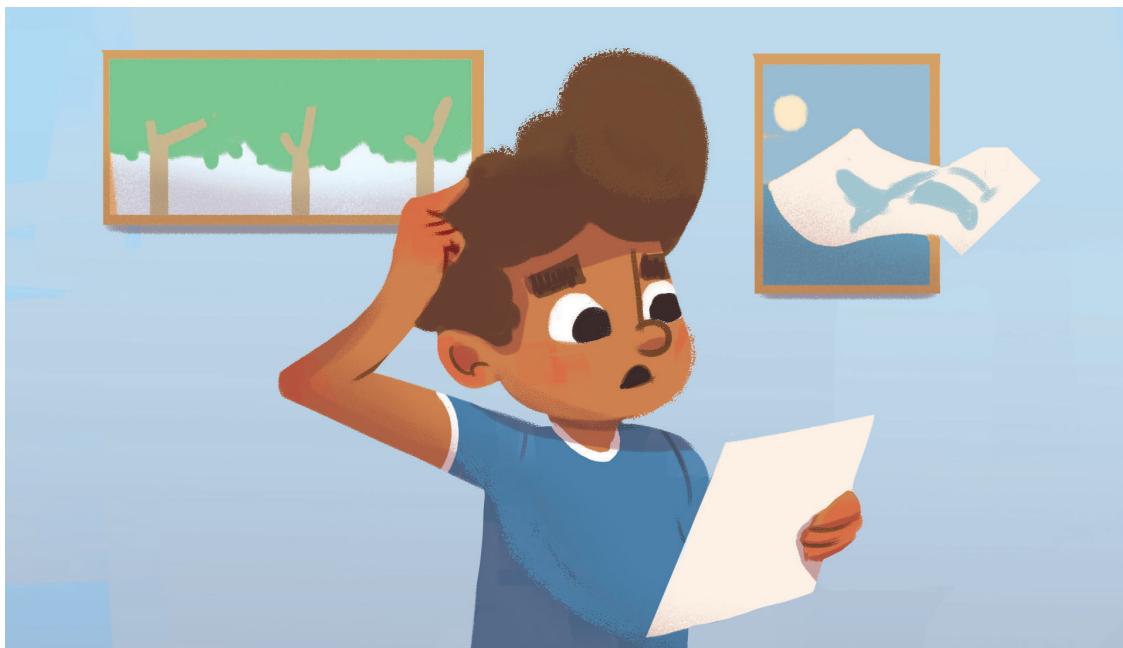
- Print out the worksheet on pages 4–5.
- Read the introductory prompt below. Ask children to complete the worksheet, converting distances from kilometers to meters, centimeters, and millimeters.
- In a class discussion after completing the activity, ask children these questions: *Why do we use units of different lengths? Why are kilometers used to measure longer distances?*

On page 4, look at the map of a country called the Republic of Natura. It is made up of four islands.

Below the map is a Distance Chart. It shows the distance between islands. In the Distance Chart, look for the square that connects two islands to find the distance between them.

For example, the distance between Lava Island and Ice Island is 5 kilometers.

Find the distance between the islands to answer a question. Then use the Conversion Key to change the distance from kilometers to other units.



Luke's Flying Start

Find the Distance

Republic of Natura



Distance Chart

Lava Island		Palm Island	Green Island
8 km	12 km	4 km	
12 km	5 km	20 km	6 km
5 km	20 km	6 km	Ice Island

Conversion Key

1 kilometer (km) =	1,000 meters (m)
	100,000 centimeters (cm)
	1,000,000 millimeters (mm)

Luke's Flying Start

Find the Distance

1. What is the distance from Lava Island to Palm Island? _____ km

What is this distance in meters? _____ m

What is this distance in centimeters? _____ cm

What is this distance in millimeters? _____ mm

2. What is the distance from Green Island to Lava Island? _____ km

What is this distance in meters? _____ m

What is this distance in centimeters? _____ cm

What is this distance in millimeters? _____ mm

3. What is the distance from Palm Island to Ice Island? _____ km

What is this distance in meters? _____ m

What is this distance in centimeters? _____ cm

What is this distance in millimeters? _____ mm

4. What is the distance from Ice Island to Green Island? _____ km

What is this distance in meters? _____ m

What is this distance in centimeters? _____ cm

What is this distance in millimeters? _____ mm

5. What is the distance from Palm Island to Green Island? _____ km

What is this distance in meters? _____ m

What is this distance in centimeters? _____ cm

What is this distance in millimeters? _____ mm

