

Length

FOR TEACHERS

Content: Non-standard units for measuring length.

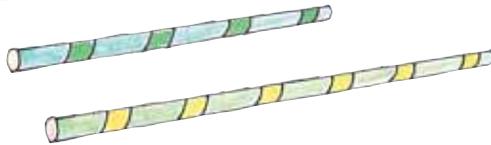
Materials required: Table or desk, straws (20 in number) of the same length and straws of two different lengths (one each).

How to conduct:

- Other objects like pencils and drinking straws can also be used.
- The instructions in this activity may be slightly difficult for the children to understand. Help them to comprehend the instructions and guide them in doing the activity.

Learning outcome: Lengths can be compared. Lengths can be measured using a common unit of measure.

ACTIVITY

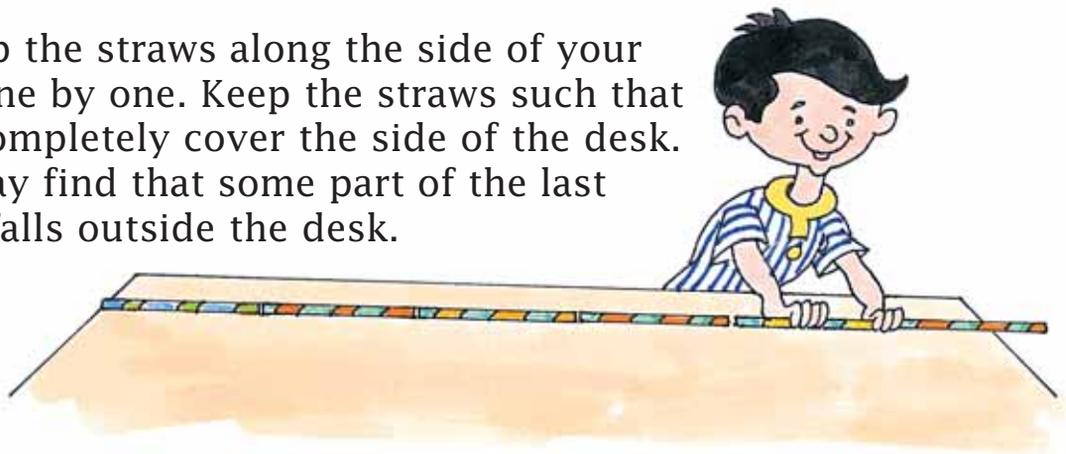


A. Take out 2 straws that have different lengths. Show the straw that is longer.

For teachers: Do this with straws of different lengths. You may even proceed to doing this activity with more than 2 straws of different lengths.

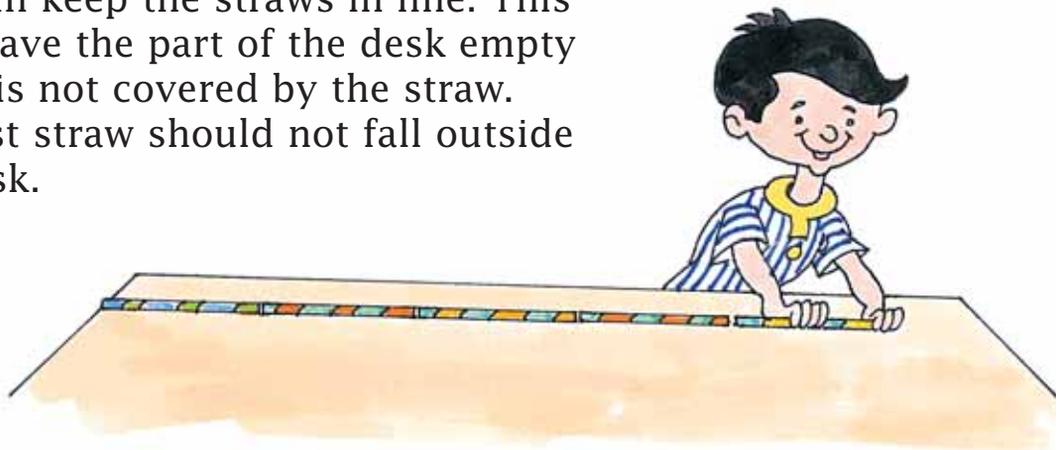
B. Take out 3 straws of the same length. Keep them end-to-end to form a line. Say aloud, “the total length of the line is 3 straws”.

C. Keep the straws along the side of your desk one by one. Keep the straws such that they completely cover the side of the desk. You may find that some part of the last straw falls outside the desk.



Count the number of straws. Now say aloud, “the length of the desk is a little less than ____ straws”.

D. Again keep the straws in line. This time leave the part of the desk empty which is not covered by the straw. The last straw should not fall outside the desk.



Now say aloud, “the length of the desk is a little more than ____ straws”.

For teachers: Perform the above two activities by making the children measure lengths of other objects such as books, blackboard, chair, lunchbox, shoe and scale.

E. Measure the length of the same side of the desk. This time use the same straw again and again. Is your answer the same as when you used many straws?

For teachers: Guide the children to use the same straw to measure a length. There can be two ways. Show them how to somersault the straw to move it ahead on the desk. Alternately, ask them to mark the point on the desk where the straw ends and then to remove the straw and begin it again from the point marked.