FAMILY MATH Estimate, Measure, and Compare Lengths

Dear Family,

Your student is learning to make an estimate, or a thoughtful guess, for the length of familiar objects. They learn to draw tape diagrams to represent the difference between their estimate and the actual measurement. Then your student can use addition and subtraction number sentences to compare and solve. Key Terms benchmark difference estimate

Module 1 Topic C



My pinkie finger is about 1 cm. I can use that as a benchmark to estimate the length of a pencil. I can see the difference between 16 and 20 by comparing the tape diagrams.

At-Home Activities

Estimate in Meters

Use the distance from the floor to a doorknob as a benchmark for 1 meter. With your student, find objects around the house that are about 1 meter, such as the length of a desk, the height

of a table, or the width of a window. Consider continuing the activity by looking for objects that are longer than 1 meter, such as the length of a sofa, length of a countertop, or the height of a door, and discuss the estimates.

Estimate and Measure in Centimeters

Knowing that the width of their pinkie finger is about 1 centimeter, have your student estimate the length of familiar objects, such as a fork or a marker. Then take turns estimating and then measuring the length of items, such as a shoe or a tissue box. Have your student find and explain the difference between the estimate and actual measurement.

