

Formative Assessment Task

Kindergarten: Measurement and Data

K.MD.1: Describe measurable attributes of objects, such as length or weight. Describe several measurable attributes of a single object.

Directions:

1. Choose several blocks to show student(s). These blocks could be taken from the block/building center. They can be made of wood, foam, cardboard, plastic etc.
2. Assess individual students or small groups of students.
3. Pick one block to describe for students so that students understand the task. Choose a cube to describe. (e.g. "All of the sides are the same length.")
4. Ask student to choose a different block and describe it. (e.g. They might say, "This block has 2 long sides and 2 shorter sides.")
5. Can the student describe more than one attribute? Does the student only describe the length? Do they consider width or weight? (e.g. "It is heavier than the cube." or "If you line up 2 of these blocks, they are the same length as that block.")

Considerations:

Watch how the students describe attributes.

- Do they only focus on attributes that are not measurable? (Material, color) (e.g. "This block is red. It is made of foam.")
- Do they quickly note length? Or width? Or weight? (With a typical short rectangular prism, 5 1/2" x 3" x 1 1/4", a students might say, "Both of these long sides are the same length. These two ends are shorter.")
- Do they compare blocks in terms of an attribute?
- Does it make sense that some blocks have some attributes that are equal? (If student has a typical longer rectangular prism, 11" x 3" x 1 1/4", as well as the shorter rectangular prism described above, do they notice that the ends are still the same length as the shorter block described above?)
- Can students discuss and justify their ideas?

Collecting Data:

Student performance can be scored with a provided task rubric or a rubric created by the teacher. Data can be recorded on a score sheet.

