







Topic: Using units of measurement

Exploring size 3

Lesson concepts

-  **Capacity** — Language
-  **Capacity** — Direct comparison
-  **Length** — Language
-  **Length** — Direct comparison
-  **Mass** — Language
-  **Mass** — Direct comparison

Today students will:

- ▶ directly compare the size of objects
- ▶ describe the size of objects.

Resources

Find and prepare

Large sheets of paper (to trace body outline)
Familiar objects in the environment to compare size with (for example: chairs, posts)
Range of small plastic containers
Familiar objects to manipulate and compare
Trays of rice or sand
Seesaw (optional)
Sand pit (optional)
Mini trampoline (optional)
Safe play area with hiding spaces
Digital camera (optional)

Key terms

long, short, tall, height, length, mass, heavy, light, fat, thin, thick, longer, shorter, space, cover, fit inside, bigger, smaller, straight, curvy, measure, compare, big, describe, represent

For definitions and explanations of terms, please see the [Glossary](#).

Lesson

Introduce the lesson

Explain that students will continue to explore 'How big am I?' in this lesson.

Discuss with students how they might describe their size.

Help students to list ways they could measure themselves.

Plan with students how they might develop a detailed idea of how big they are.

Focus questions

Q: *How are you going to find out how big you are?*

Q: *What things could you measure?*

Q: *Could you be short and still be big? How?*

Students complete the following activities to explore how big they are. For each activity, students may be questioned and given the opportunity to discuss their findings.

Activity 1: What is taller or shorter than me?

Ask students to discuss and carry out direct comparisons of height by:

- standing beside objects (for example: furniture, fence, trees) and other people to determine if they are taller or shorter
- drawing around their and another person's body and displaying these side-by-side.

Activity 2: What is heavier than me?

Ask students to discuss and carry out comparisons of mass by:

- playing on a seesaw
- observing the imprints in the sand of their footprints compared with those of other people (including adults) or a toy
- observing the sag in a mini tramp when different people sit on it.

Activity 3: What holds more or less than my hand?

Ask students to carry out comparisons of capacity by:

- collecting a hand full of rice (or similar material)
- pouring it into another student's hand or into a container.

Activity 4: Where can I fit?

Ask students (under supervision) to explore inside and outside their house for hiding places where they can fit.