

HOW BIG AM I?

1. Using yarn, string or ribbon measure and cut the circumference of each child's waist, neck, wrist and thumb. In order to compare the measurements tape one end of each string to a straight line. Each child orders his strings and then explains what he/she has done.

Extension: Children compare their measurements to a friends' or to the teacher's and explain what they discovered.

2. Using a string from Activity #1, measure the string using a non-standard unit of measure. Children work in groups, each group getting a set of different non-standard units.

Prior to measuring students discuss which unit they think they will use the most of and the least of when they measure their string. Give them a second string and ask them to predict if their results will be similar.

Groups share their work and explain how they decided which unit they would use the most of when measuring their string.

Ask students whether and how their string might change if they measure next month, end of the year.

[Created by Lynn McCune and Denise O'Leary]

A.74