

Measuring Penny
by Loreen Leedy

Parts of the Lesson	Materials Needed
<p>I. Pre-activity: How many ways? -Have children generate a many ideas as they can about how to measure different things. -Tell children that today's book is about a girl who finds a LOT of ways to measure her dog. Ask them what they THINK she measured. Make a chart and see if any of their ideas are mentioned in the book.</p>	<p>I. Pre-activity: How many ways? -If you have copies of Funbook 2, you can have the children use the chart on <u>page 17</u>. (They can do the rest later.) -Or use <u>index cards or pieces of paper with pictures of items to measure</u>, such as a person, a tree, a flower, a plate of spaghetti, a shoe, a soccer ball, etc. Give each child, pair, or group of children a picture for generating measurement ideas. -<u>Chart paper</u> for listing dog ideas.</p>
<p>II. Read the book (Talking points) -Read the story, and as Penny the dog gets measured, tick off any ideas that were generated by the students during the pre-activity discussion.</p>	<p>II. Read the book. -At least one copy of <u>the book</u>. -<u>The chart paper</u> with ideas for measuring a dog, generated during the pre-activity discussion.</p>
<p>III. Do the math: Measuring -Have children weigh and measure their own stuffed animals. (Or bring a collection of different kinds and sizes of animals to measure.) -Children record the measurements they make. -(If possible, use a digital camera to take pictures of the children with their stuffed animals.)</p>	<p>III. For the activities -<u>Stuffed animals</u> to measure (preferably brought from home) -Have available <u>as many measurement tools as you can think of</u>: Bathroom scales (to .5 lb if possible) Postage scales Weight-watcher food scales Balances with counterweights Rulers, yardsticks A height chart on the wall Tape measures -<u>Plain paper or Funbook page 18</u> for recording measurements.</p>
<p>IV. Wrap Up (Debrief) -Discuss measurements and find stuffed animals that were tallest, lightest, heaviest, longest, etc. -Discuss measurements of real-life animals. Put down one foot rulers to visualize how big they are...or put down a long length of "ruler" masking tape, 30 feet or more, and have children locate measurements along the line.</p>	<p>IV. Wrap Up -<u>Charts with animal measurements. One-foot rulers and/or ruled masking tape.</u> -Take-home item (optional): Give children small <u>measuring tapes</u> so they can continue to have fun measuring things at home.</p>