

Lesson 1: Measure in Halves of an Inch

Standards Alignments

Addressing	3.MD.B.4
Building Towards	3.MD.B.4

Teacher-facing Learning Goals

- Measure lengths using a ruler marked with halves of an inch.

Student-facing Learning Goals

- Let's measure the length of objects around the room.

Lesson Purpose

The purpose of this lesson is for students to measure lengths that are fractions of an inch and relate these measurements to fractions on a number line.

In grade 2, students learned how to measure lengths to the nearest inch. They also learned how to represent fractions on the number line in the previous unit.

In this lesson, students start by measuring the length of objects using an inch ruler. As students find objects whose length is not a whole number of inches, they consider how to partition the inches to get a more precise measurement. Students then partition a ruler to show halves of an inch and use the ruler to measure lengths to the nearest half of an inch. The lesson synthesis introduces students to **mixed numbers** as numbers that combine whole numbers and fractions less than 1.

Students use the rulers they make in this lesson again in future lessons.

Access for:

Students with Disabilities

- Engagement (Activity 1)

English Learners

- MLR2 (Activity 2)

Instructional Routines

What Do You Know About ____? (Warm-up)

Materials to Gather

- Materials from a previous activity: Activity 2

Materials to Copy

- Measure Around the Room (groups of 5): Activity 1

Lesson Timeline

Warm-up	10 min
Activity 1	15 min
Activity 2	20 min
Lesson Synthesis	10 min
Cool-down	5 min

Teacher Reflection Question

In the last unit, students learned how to represent fractions on diagrams and number lines. In what ways did you see students applying that experience here?

Cool-down (to be completed at the end of the lesson)

🕒 5 min

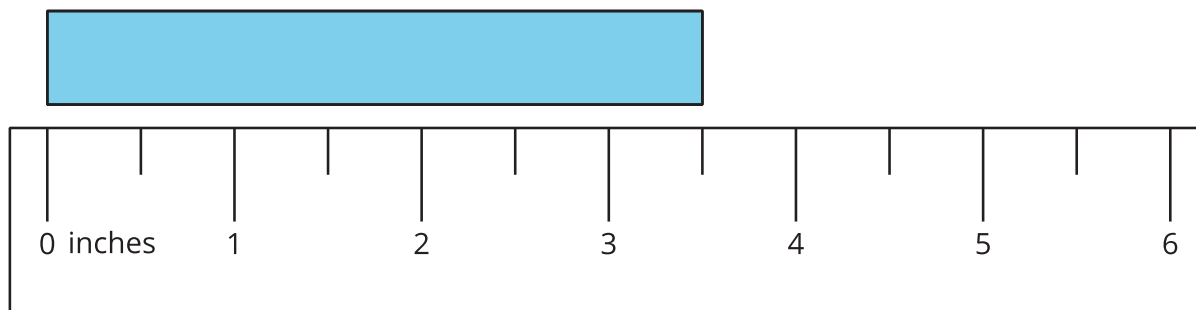
Length in Half Inches

Standards Alignments

Addressing 3.MD.B.4

Student-facing Task Statement

What is the length of the rectangle?



Student Responses

$\frac{7}{2}$ inches or $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches