

Lesson 4: Measuring Dinosaurs

Objective:

1. Students will use nonstandard units (paper clips) to measure different dinosaurs.


Materials:

1. Document: Dinosaur Pictures
2. Document: Measuring Dinosaurs by Height Bar Graph
3. Document: Measuring Dinosaurs by Length Bar Graph
4. Poster Size Print of the Height and Length Graph Documents
5. 5 Boxes of Paperclips

Procedure: (Working in groups of four)








1. Distribute the document **Dinosaur Pictures** and a box of paper clips to each group. Students will work together and measure the height of each dinosaur with the paper clips.
2. They will record their measurements on the **Document: Measuring Dinosaurs by Height Bar Graph**.
3. After they measure the height, they will repeat the process to measure the dinosaurs' lengths. They will record their measurements on the **Document: Measuring Dinosaurs by Length Bar Graph**.

Measure the dinosaurs!



Name: _____ Date: _____

Measuring Dinosaurs Height Bar Graph

10							
9							
8							
7							
6							
5							
4							
3							
2							
1							
							
	Dinosaurs						

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4. After each group records their measurements, they will turn their bar graphs into you. As a group, review the groups' findings and record the collective

results in a class bar graph. Discuss with the class if there are fluctuations in measurements. What might have caused the different readings?

Extension Idea:

KLRN PBS LearningMedia:

<http://klrn.pbslearningmedia.org>

On PBS LearningMedia, search for: How Big Are You? It is an interactive activity that explains how students can use nonstandard units to measure the length of dinosaurs.