

Children's

MUSEUM

of Houston

Measuring Rules

Make a ruler to create your own unit of measurement.

What to do

What you need

- Glue
- Paper
- Pencil
- Dry Pasta
- Craft Stick

1

Lay out pasta end-to-end onto a craft stick. *How many pasta pieces fit on your craft stick?*

2

Glue the pasta to the craft stick.

3

Look for an object to measure and estimate how many pasta pieces it will take to equal the length of the object and record your estimation.

4

Use your ruler to measure the object. Record your measurement. *Does it matter if there are spaces in between the pasta? Why?*

5

Compare your estimate to the actual measurement. *How close were you to your estimate?*

For Parents

This activity provides practice measuring lengths. In time, your child will be able to measure with standard units such as inches, centimeters, feet, and so on. In the metric system, the unit for length is meters because everything is relative to the meter (like centimeter, kilometer, and so on). Building an understanding that a unit is a uniform size is important in understanding how measuring works.

