

Measuring Worms

Materials Needed:

- pieces of yarn; several different lengths
- rulers (12")

Time:

approximately 30 minutes

Skills:

Science (soils)

Math (measuring, comparing)

Procedure:

Begin the activity by giving each student several pieces of yarn (each piece should be a different length) Ask students to put their pieces of yarn in order based on length (i.e. longest piece of yarn at the top of their desk working down to the shortest piece at the bottom of their desk).

Next, ask students to use their pieces of yarn as a non-traditional measuring tool. Ask them to measure items around the room. Is the book longer or shorter than your pieces of yarn? Is the desk longer or shorter than your yarn? Find something that is shorter than your shortest piece of yarn. Find something that is longer than your longest piece of yarn. Find something that your piece of yarn can reach completely around.

Ask the students to pick one of their pieces of yarn and use a ruler to measure its length.

Then, have students compare their piece of yarn to a neighbor's or friend's. Which one is shorter? Which one is longer?

