

Try It! 10 minutes | Pairs

Here is a problem demonstrating how to use nonstandard units to measure height.

In Jordan's classroom, there is a jar where children put paintbrushes when they are not using them. Jordan's teacher asks the class to find out how tall the jar is. She says that they will measure the jar using Link 'N' Learn® Links. How can Jordan find out the height of the jar?

Introduce the problem. Tell children that they will use Links to find the height of classroom objects. Explain that height tells how tall something is. Demonstrate for children how to make a chain of Links that is the height of a classroom object, such as the leg of a chair. Then have children do the activity to solve the problem. Distribute Links to children.

Materials

- Link 'N' Learn® Links (50 per pair)



1. Ask children to choose an object in the classroom and estimate its height. Encourage them to make a chain that is the same height as the object.



2. Now have children check their chains against the object they are measuring. For example, if children choose a table to measure, **say:** *Hold your chain beside the table to see if they are the same height.* Children may have to add or take away Links to make their chains the same height as the objects they are measuring.



3. Have children make sure their chains match the height of the object. Then ask children to share their final measurements with the class.

! Look Out!

Some children may choose objects to measure whose height cannot be expressed with an even number of Links. If children are confused by this, tell them that some items may be "almost" or "close to" a certain number of Links.

