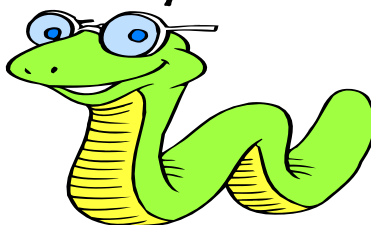


# Wormy Worms



## Suggested Group Size

Small Group

## Objectives(s)

The children will measure and compare using a non-standard reference.

## Activity

Children will use yarn wormy worms to measure a variety of objects, and record and compare the lengths of the objects.

## Targeted Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards for Four-Year-Olds

- **V. Cognitive Development and General Knowledge**
  - **A. Mathematical Thinking**
    - **A.f. Measurement**
      - **A.f.2.** Engages in activities that explore measurement
        - **A.f.2.a.** Child measures or compares the length of one or more objects using a non-standard reference (e.g., paper clips), with teacher support and multiple experiences over time.

## Materials

- A plastic sandwich size bag of yarn “wormy worms” for each child (plus some extras)
- Basket filled with a variety of items for children to measure
- Book: *Inch by Inch* by Leo Lionni
  - Supplemental Book(s): *Diary of a Worm* by Doreen Cronin, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle, *Worm Family* by Tony Johnston

## Procedures

1. Measure about ten equal pieces of yarn (wormy worms) for each child.
2. Fill a basket with a variety of objects to be measured (e.g., pencil, block, small toy, and book).
3. Read the book *Inch by Inch* by Leo Lionni to the children.
4. Select an object from the basket to measure.
5. Show the children how to measure the object using the yarn wormy worms (e.g., line up the lengths of yarn in a row next to the object being measured). Count the number of wormy worms and state for the children how many wormy worms long the object is.

## Procedures (continued)

6. Pass out a bag of wormy worms to each child.
7. Ask a child to select an object from the basket for the group to measure.
8. Assist the children, as needed, in lining up the wormy worms in a row next to the object being measured.
9. Questions to ask during the lesson:
  - How many wormy worms will it take to measure this? Let's count to find out.
  - How do we write that number?
  - What else could we measure with our wormy worms?
  - Which is longer or which is shorter (after measuring two objects)?
10. Repeat steps seven through nine until all objects in the basket have been measured.

## Adaptations

- Provide hand over hand assistance, as needed, to place and count the yarn.
- Limit the number of children in the small group.
- Select only one item to measure at a time.
- Include verbal prompting with counting, as needed.

## Extensions

- Shared writing experience to record predictions and actual measurements.
- Create a graph to record the measurement of each object.

## Checking for Understanding

Children will demonstrate their understanding of the lesson by:

- using a non-standard reference to measure the length of an object
- comparing the length of two items
- using measurement vocabulary (e.g., longer, shorter, same, length, width).

## Related Standards for Four-Year-Olds

- **IV. Language, Communication, and Emergent Literacy**
  - **E. Conversation**
    - **E.1.** Uses language to express needs and feelings, share experiences, predict outcomes, and resolve problems
      - **E.1.a.** Child demonstrates varied uses of language (e.g., requesting, commenting, using manner words, problem-solving).
    - **E.2.** Initiates, ask questions, and responds to adults and peers in a variety of settings
      - **E.2.a.** Child follows another's conversational lead, appropriately initiates or terminates conversations, or appropriately introduces new content.
    - **E.3.** Uses appropriate language and style for context
      - **E.3.a.** Child demonstrates knowledge of verbal conversational rules (e.g., appropriately takes turns, does not interrupt, uses appropriate verbal expressions, and uses appropriate intonation).

## **Related Standards for Four-Year-Olds (continued)**

- **IV. Language, Communication, and Emergent Literacy**

- **F. Emergent Reading**

- **F.1.** Shows motivation for reading

- **F.1.a.** Child enjoys reading and reading-related activities (e.g., selects reading and reading-related activities when given a choice, pretends to read to others).