

Convert lengths



In this activity you will convert between metric units of length: kilometres, metres, centimetres, and millimetres.

$$1 \text{ km} = 1000 \text{ m}$$

$$1 \text{ m} = 100 \text{ cm}$$

$$1 \text{ m} = 1000 \text{ mm}$$

$$1 \text{ cm} = 10 \text{ mm}$$



Think about

how to change from one unit to another.

A **kilometre** is one thousand metres!

$$\text{so } \text{km} \xrightarrow{\times 1000} \text{m}$$

$$\text{or } \text{m} \xrightarrow{\div 1000} \text{km}$$

A **millimetre** is a thousandth of a metre!

$$\text{so } \text{mm} \xrightarrow{\div 1000} \text{m}$$

$$\text{or } \text{m} \xrightarrow{\times 1000} \text{mm}$$

A **centimetre** is one hundredth of a metre!

$$\text{so } \text{cm} \xrightarrow{\div 100} \text{m}$$

$$\text{or } \text{m} \xrightarrow{\times 100} \text{cm}$$

Think about

how to use this to help you change to different units ... and back again ...

$$\text{mm} \xrightarrow{\div 10} \text{cm} \xrightarrow{\div 100} \text{m} \xrightarrow{\div 1000} \text{km}$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc} & \times 10 & \times 100 & \times 1000 \\ & \longleftarrow & \longleftarrow & \longleftarrow \\ \text{mm} & & \text{cm} & & \text{m} & & \text{km} \end{array}$$

Try these Fill the gaps.

A 3 cm = _____ mm 12 cm = _____ mm 285 cm = _____ mm

B 6 m = _____ cm 2.4 m = _____ cm 0.7 m = _____ cm

C 8 km = _____ m 0.8 km = _____ m 0.08 km = _____ m

D 40 mm = _____ cm 250 mm = _____ cm 400 mm = _____ cm

E 500 cm = _____ m 750 cm = _____ m 20 cm = _____ m

F 2000 m = _____ km 3500 m = _____ km 300 m = _____ km

G 0.4 km = _____ m = _____ cm

H 0.15 km = _____ m = _____ cm

I 0.07 km = _____ m = _____ cm

J 3 m = _____ cm = _____ mm

K 0.3 m = _____ cm = _____ mm

L 90 000 cm = _____ m = _____ km

M 1500 cm = _____ m = _____ km

N 250 cm = _____ m = _____ km

O 600 mm = _____ cm = _____ m

P 50 mm = _____ cm = _____ m

Let's play bingo!

- 1 Choose a card.
- 2 As each length is called (or written on the board), look for an equal length on your card. If there is one, cover it or cross it out.
- 3 The winner is the first person to cover or cross out all the lengths on their card.

Dominoes

- 1 Shuffle, then share all of the dominoes between the players.
- 2 The first player puts down any domino.
- 3 Each player in turn tries to put down a domino next to a domino showing an equal length.
- 4 The first player to use all of their dominoes wins.

At the end of the activity

- How many metres are there in a kilometre?
- How do you convert metres to centimetres?
- How do you convert millimetres to metres?
- How many millimetres are there in a centimetre?
- Estimate how far you will walk today, in a week, in a year, in your lifetime.