

MATH IN OUR LIVES: MEASUREMENT – US CUSTOMARY UNITS STUDY GUIDE

VOCABULARY

U.S. Customary Units	Non-metric units of measurement that are currently used in the U.S.
Mass	The measure of how much matter an object has.
Volume	The measure of the space within a three dimensional shape.
Fahrenheit	The scale of temperature used in US Customary measurement.
Sundial	A tool used by ancient people to tell time using shadows from the sun.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

What are the main units of length in US customary units?

How were measures like the foot and the yard first established?

What is the difference between mass and weight?

How can astronauts illustrate this difference?

How is mass measured in US customary units?

What are the US customary units of volume?

What is the temperature Fahrenheit at which water freezes? Boils?

What is the basis for measuring a day? A year?

What is a leap year?

FOLLOW UP ACTIVITIES

Students can measure areas around their homes or school. Once they have a record of their measurements they can make a scale drawing of their home or school.

The history of measurement is interesting – students can learn a great deal by researching the history of different systems of measurements, and using these systems to measure their surroundings.

If the weather is sunny, build a sundial outside the classroom. Students can research the mathematics behind a sundial and how it works. Then, they can build their own.