

## Compare Metric Lengths

T: Welcome to class! What do you see on your desk?

S: I see two toy robots.

T: Can you describe the robots to me?

S: Sure! This robot has a round head and it's yellow. This robot has a square head and it's grey.

T: Great job! Today we will measure toys in centimeters. Which side of my ruler shows centimeters?

S: Centimeters are marked at the top of your ruler.

T: How do you know that these are centimeters and not inches?

S: Centimeters are smaller than inches.

T: Clever! Can you measure the height of each of these robots in centimeters?

S: Sure! I just line up the bottom of the robot with the first line of the ruler. The yellow robot is 26 centimeters tall.

T: How tall is the grey robot?

S: The grey robot is 21 centimeters tall.

T: Which robot is taller?

S: The yellow robot!

T: How much taller is it than the grey robot?

S: Ummm, it's just a little bit taller.

T: Remember, we can find out exactly how much taller it is by subtracting the measurements. What is 26 centimeters minus 21 centimeters?

S:  $26 - 21 = 5$ . The yellow robot is 5 centimeters taller than the grey robot!

T: That's right! Let's look at the Legos on your desk now. What do you notice about them?

S: The blue Lego brick is very long, and the orange Lego brick is a little shorter.

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## Compare Customary Lengths

T: That's right! Can you measure them?

S: Sure. The blue Lego brick is 18 centimeters long, and the orange Lego brick is 11 centimeters long. I can find the difference!

T: What subtraction sentence will you use?

S: I'll use  $18-11$ .  $18-11=7$ . The blue Lego brick is 7 centimeters longer than the orange Lego brick!

T: You're getting the hang of it now!

S: Yes! Can I try measuring the car and the bus now?

T: Sure!

S: This big bus is 30 centimeters long. That's the entire length of the ruler! The car is 16 centimeters long.

T: Go ahead and compare their lengths now.

S: Okay. I'll subtract  $30-16$ .  $30-16=14$ . That means the bus is 14 centimeters longer than the car.

T: You're exactly right! You can use subtraction sentences to compare the length or height of different objects.

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