25SCHOOLS

FREE LEARNING NOTES FOR ZAMBIA

GRADE 2 · TERM 2

Mathematics

Time and length

Lesson notes for learners · Competence-Based Curriculum

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We use a clock to tell the time and a ruler to measure how long things are. In this note you will read the time on a clock in full hours and half hours, find out how long things take, and measure length in metres, centimetres and millimetres.

AFTER THESE NOTES YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO

- Show and read full hours and half hours on a clock
- Say which of two activities takes longer
- Measure length with a metre ruler and a 30 cm ruler
- Say what perimeter means

KEY WORDS

Hour hand	The short hand of the clock. It shows the hours.
Minute hand	The long hand of the clock. It shows the minutes.
Duration	How long something takes.
Perimeter	The total distance around a flat shape.

1 Telling the time

Look at a clock with hands. The short hand is the hour hand. The long hand is the minute hand. The minute hand moves faster than the hour hand. A watch that you wear on your hand can also be a clock with hands.

When the minute hand points to 12, we say o'clock. To show 7 o'clock, put the minute hand on 12 and the hour hand on 7. We say 7 o'clock in the morning. This is the same as 07:00 hours. Always say if it is morning or night.

When the minute hand points to 6, we say half past. Half past seven is 07:30 hours. That is 30 minutes past 7. The hour hand is half way between 7 and 8.

Minute hand points to	We say
12	O'clock
6	Half past

Figure 1. Reading the clock

2 How long things take

Duration is how long something takes. You can use a simple timer, such as a sand timer, to measure it. You can count hand claps or the swings of a string with a weight. Sing a short song while a friend empties water bottles. The number of bottles shows how long the song took.

Compare two jobs. Which takes longer, brushing teeth or bathing. Which takes less time, sweeping the classroom or weeding a garden. Put picture cards of daily jobs in order from the one that takes the shortest time to the longest.

3 Measuring length

The metre, m, is a standard unit for length. A metre stick is one metre long. Guess the length of your teacher's table in metres. Then measure it by counting how many metre sticks fit along it. At this level we give the answer to the nearest metre.

A 30 cm ruler has small marks. Each space between big numbers is one centimetre, cm. The tiny marks between are millimetres, mm. Say 6 cm 5 mm, not 6.5 cm. Measure a book or a desk. For a curved line, lay a string along it and then put the string on the ruler.

We can also report a length in metres and centimetres, such as 3 m 47 cm.

Unit	Short form	Used with
Metre	m	Metre stick
Centimetre	cm	30 cm ruler
Millimetre	mm	Marks on the ruler

Figure 2. Units of length

4 Perimeter

Perimeter is the total distance around a flat shape. To find the distance around your classroom floor, walk around it using steps or other units. Choose a unit that fits and make a mark where you start so you do not forget it.

TRY THIS

Look at a clock at home. Say the time at full hours and half hours. Measure the length of a table with a ruler. Say which takes longer, eating lunch or washing your hands.

REMEMBER

- The short hand shows hours and the long hand shows minutes
- The minute hand on 12 means o'clock and on 6 means half past
- Duration is how long something takes
- We measure length in metres, centimetres and millimetres

? Check yourself

1. Which hand of the clock is the short one.
2. Where does the minute hand point when it is half past.
3. What do we call how long something takes.
4. Name one unit of length.
5. Father leaves for work at 07:30 hours every morning. Chanda wants to show this on her clock model. (a) Where does the minute hand point. (b) What do we say for this time. (c) Between which two numbers is the hour hand.
6. In class Bupe and Mwila each measure a desk with a 30 cm ruler. Bupe says 6 cm 5 mm and Mwila says 6.5 cm. (a) Who wrote it the way we use in Grade 2. (b) Which unit is smaller, cm or mm. (c) Which takes longer, sweeping the classroom or taking off shoes.

ANSWERS

1. The hour hand.
2. At 6.
3. Duration.
4. Metre, centimetre or millimetre.
5. (a) At 6. (b) Half past seven. (c) Between 7 and 8.
6. (a) Bupe. (b) mm. (c) Sweeping the classroom.

Written by 25Schools to follow the Grade 2 Mathematics syllabus of the Zambian competence-based curriculum. Free for learners to read, download and share. More notes and quizzes at 25schools.com.