Kindergarten – Unit 7 Parent Letter

We are beginning Unit 7: Measurement and data. The purpose of this unit is to have students describe and compare measurable attributes of objects. Students will measure objects using nonstandard units of measurement and use comparative language such as more than, less than, equal to and describe the difference. They will investigate length, weight and volume.

* Students will use classroom objects to explore terms such as:
  + Small, medium and large
  + Heavy and light
  + Shorter and longer
* Students will understand the importance of using a common end point while measuring the length of objects.
* Students will directly compare the heights of two children and describe one student as taller and shorter. Students will use non-standard units to measure their peers and at times count up to and over 100.
* Students will look at efficient counting strategies (1’s, 5’s or 10’s).
* Students will use a balance to explore how weight is an attribute that can be measured.
* Students will investigate volume by using two different sized containers to transfer a material and predict which has the capacity to hold more.

Here is how you can help your child while our class is working on this unit:

* Practice skip counting by 10’s and 5’s. Practice counting by 1’s beyond 100.
* Line up the members of you family from shortest to tallest.
* Using toys, compare their weight using descriptive language such as “heavy’ and ‘light’. Notice that a larger toy is not always heavier than a smaller toy. Have you child explain why.
* Measure the length of the kitchen or dining room table using pennies or paper clips. Notice the difference between how many pennies long the table is and how many paper clips long it may be. Have you child explain why.
* Measure how many footsteps it takes to get to the mailbox.
* Using different sized bowls or kitchen containers, predict and investigate which holds more by filling them with water or another kitchen material (beans, elbow macaroni, etc.).

If you have any questions, please contact your child’s teacher or the Math Science Teacher.

For additional information, take a look at the Fairfield Public School Parent Guide at <http://fairfieldpublicschoolsk5math.wikispaces.com/home>