



Title:

The Long And Short Of It

Author:

Cheryl Nathan and Lisa McCourt

Illustrator:

Cheryl Nathan

Summary:

This book is about how no two animals are alike. The book names different animals, and talks about the length of some of their body parts. What makes this book fun and entertaining is the fact that it uses nonstandard units of measurement. For example, using a half-used black crayon as a measurement, instead of five inches.

Area of Use:

I can use this book in mathematics to introduce measurement. It is important to use nonstandard units of measurement before using standard units of measurement when teaching students how to measure, especially kindergarteners. In this book the authors use nonstandard units of measurement to explain the different lengths of animal parts, and that is what I would focus on when reading this book. When I read this book to my students I would have a real object for each nonstandard unit of measurement used in the book. For example, when the book says, “Mountain goats’ horns are as short as carrots,” I would have a real carrot to show my students. After I finish reading the book to my students, I would have them go on a scavenger hunt in the classroom to find things that are the same length as the nonstandard units. For example, I would have my students find an object in the classroom this is as long as a lunchbox.

Review:

I really like this book because I can see how it will engage kindergarteners, and how it integrates measurement in a fun way. Also, this book integrates science as well as math because it brings in different animals and their parts.