

Measuring Me!

By Nicola Kent

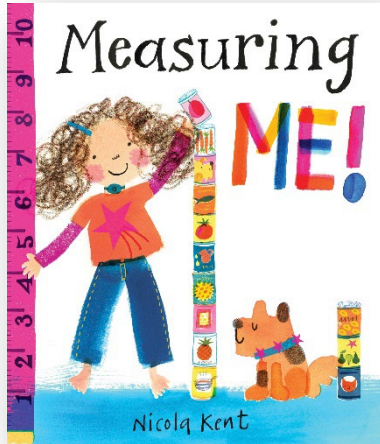
Examine the covers of the book with the child

- From looking at the front cover, ask the child what they think the book will be about.
- Read and discuss the questions asked on the back cover. Talk about the children pictured. What are they doing?
- Ask the child what is pictured along the side of each cover. How are the measuring tapes the same and how are they different?

Read the book, pausing to ask

- Compare the first spread with the front cover. How are they the same? How are they different? How is the girl feeling? What else is in the illustration?
- What does "amazing" mean? Why does this child think that their body is amazing?
- Why do you think there is a new character on the next spread? How would you go about comparing your weight to your toys? What could you use to help you?
- What is the child doing in the water? Where do you think this might be? Where is the water in our bodies?
- What is happening in the next spread? How are clothes dried in your home? Are you surprised by the text on this spread?
- What does "detect" mean? Do you think 50,000 is a lot or a little? What are "taste buds"? Name the pictures on this spread. Describe how each one smells to you.
- What is going on in the sky spread? Have we seen these characters before? What were they looking at? How do you think the child is feeling here? Is "millions" a lot? Can all people see the same? Does the dog see the same as the child?
- What is happening in the next illustration? Did you know there are bones in your ear? Have you ever seen a flea? How big was it?
- Can a human really power a light bulb? How do our bodies generate energy? What do we use it for?





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- How could you figure out how many hairs you have on your head? And how could you figure out how many times they would wrap around a house if you laid them end to end?
- What is happening in the next spread? What does "unraveling" mean? Is this statement surprising to you?
- How are the children in the next spread the same? How are they different? How do you think they are feeling? Talk about the body parts named here. Can you put the numbers in order from smallest to largest?
- Who do you see in the final spread? How is she feeling here? (Note: this child has a tracheostomy collar. You may or may not want to discuss this with the child.)

Activities

1. Make a vocabulary list of new words as you read through the book. Review the words with the child. Ask them to use each of the words in a sentence.
2. Engage in measuring activities using the book's chart and with a measuring tape, if you have one. You may want to gather cans to try measuring with them, too. If you have a group, make a graph to chart each child's height.
3. Help the child devise a list of categories to describe how something might smell or taste. Let the child assign the items pictured on the taste and smell page to a category. Ask them to think of other items that might fit into the different categories. If you have a group of children, have them take note of how they might disagree and ask why that might be.
4. Offer a chart or model of the human anatomy. Locate and discuss the different organs, bones, and parts of the body mentioned in this book.

With thanks to Little Tiger and The Centre for Literacy in Primary Education whose Teaching Resources provided material on which many of these questions and activities are loosely based.

You might also like:

Lifesize series by Sophy Henn

Martha Maps It Out by Leigh Hodgkinson

Who Are You? by Smriti Halls and Ali Pye

