

Measuring Mammals

Level E

You are out in the wild. You have a short measuring stick with metric calibrations. You see a giraffe in the distance. You hold the measuring stick up, like a painter might with a brush. Your arm is extended in front of you and you sight the animal and determine a height measure on the calibrated stick. You move back ten feet and make a similar sighting with a new measurement. The giraffe has not moved.

Explain how you could determine the actual height of the animal. Explain the relationship between the measurements. Write an algebraic formula for calculating the height of an object given the process described. Explain why it works.

