

POP! TEACHER RESOURCE



Lesson Plan



Leap Lengths

Lesson Plan for *Kangaroo Rats*
Grade 2

Objective

To help students practice measuring and comparing lengths in inches.

Things Needed

- *Kangaroo Rats* book
- Tape measure
- Masking tape
- Pens or pencils
- Sidewalk, blacktop, or other flat, open space

Before the Activity

Read the *Kangaroo Rats* book out loud as a class, choosing a different student to read the text on each page.

Activity

Kangaroo rats can leap more than 6 feet (1.8 m) in just one hop. That's a long way, especially for such a small animal! Today, students will test their own leaping abilities.

Bring students to the open space. Place a piece of tape on the ground to create a starting line. Then give each student a small piece of tape. Have students write their names on their tape pieces. Then have students line up behind the starting line.

One by one, have students jump as far as they can from a standstill. Students should mark their landing spots by placing their pieces of tape on the ground just in front of their toes. Measure how far each student jumped. You'll stretch the tape measure from the starting line to the place each student landed, but students can read the number of inches themselves. Write this number on each student's piece of tape before the next student jumps.



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Once all students have jumped, add a last piece of tape 6 feet (72 inches) from the starting line to represent the kangaroo rat. Then discuss the following questions as a class:

- Which student jumped the farthest?
- How far did most students jump?
- Did anyone get close to the kangaroo rat?

Evaluation

Could students accurately measure the lengths of their jumps? Could they compare the lengths of their classmates' jumps, as well as the length a kangaroo rat can jump?

Standards

This lesson plan may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational texts, grade 2 (RI 2.10), and mathematics standards, grade 2 (CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.2.MD.A.1, CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.2.MD.D.9).

