

Visiting a Swimming Pool

Activity 2

View the 'Visiting a Swimming Pool' VR tour at <https://lsv.com.au/vr/>

LEVELS F – 2



Key Learning

The standard length of an Olympic swimming pool is 50 metres. During this lesson, students will predict and then test the length of time it would take for them to move 50 metres. They will then use a range of informal units to measure 50 metres.



Resources

- Stopwatch
- Access to an open space with 50m marked out
- Appendix A: *How long is 50 metres?*



Engage

- Ask students if they have been to a local swimming pool. Show them a metre ruler and tell them that the swimming pool is 50 metres or 50 rulers long. Ask students which of the following they think is longer:
- A 50m swimming pool or a car?
- A 50m swimming pool or their classroom?
- A 50m swimming pool or a football oval?
- A 50m swimming pool or a bus?
- A 50m swimming pool or their bedroom?



Curriculum

Mathematics – Measurement and Geometry

Using units of measurements

Foundation

- Use direct and indirect comparisons to decide which is longer, heavier or holds more, and explain reasoning in everyday language ([VCMMG078](#))

Level 1

- Measure and compare the lengths, masses and capacities of pairs of objects using uniform informal units ([VCMMG095](#))

Level 2

- Compare and order several shapes and objects based on length, area, volume and capacity using appropriate uniform informal units ([VCMMG115](#))



Explore

- Go outside and mark out 50m in an open space. Ask students to predict the following and then use the stopwatch to test their predictions:
- How long would it take you to walk 50 metres?
- How long would it take you to crawl 50 metres?
- How long would it take you to run 50 metres?
- How long would it take you to hop 50 metres?



Explain

- Give small groups of students a copy of Appendix A: *How long is 50 metres?* Explain that they will be using different items to estimate and measure 50 metres. Model using informal units to measure length by completing the example as a whole class. Focus on the importance of not overlapping or leaving spaces when measuring.



Elaborate

- Students work in small groups to complete Appendix A: *How long is 50 metres?*



Evaluate

- Ask groups to share their findings.

Discuss:

- What did you notice when you measured with shorter items? What about longer items?
- Were your estimates close?
- Did all groups have the same results? If not, why could this be?
- Finally, repeat the 'which is longer?' questions from the beginning of the lesson.

Appendix A How long is 50 metres?

An Olympic swimming pool is 50 metres long. Working with your group, you will need to use the following units to measure 50 metres. For the last two, you may choose your own units. Be careful not to overlap or leaves gaps when you are measuring!

Units	Estimate	Measure
Feet 		
Books 		
Body lengths 		
Hands 		