



Home activity: Growing Plants: Count and Measure How Tall

Measure plants with your child. Together you count how many in a set and then find or draw a plant that is that many units tall. This activity can be done in separate parts or all at once—you decide what way best fits your schedule.

Materials Needed:

- Drawing supplies
- Measuring stick
- Number cards
- Tape
- Wooden dowel or stick

Learning Goals:

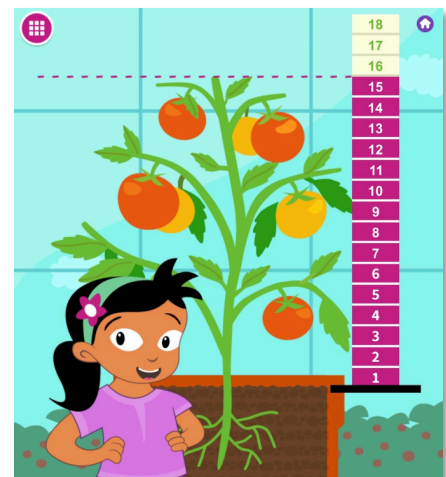
- Count a set of objects
- Understand the last number counted represents how many objects in the set
- Understand the quantity of a set and the name associated with the quantity
- Use flexible objects to measure and compare length

Part 1. Get Ready

1. Print a copy of the Plant Measuring Strip. Tape a thin wooden dowel or stick to the back of the measuring stick. Leave a few inches uncovered at the bottom.
2. Print a copy of the Dot Number cards (or make a set using index cards.) Place them in a pile.
3. Count the number of dots on a card together, then have your child point to the number and say: *There are 3 dots.*
4. Show how to use the measuring stick. Align the bottom of the measuring stick (not the dowel) to the bottom of an object. (Use plants if you have available. Push the dowel into the soil and align the bottom of the stick to the bottom of the plants.) Ask your child: *How many units tall is each one? Which one is bigger? Smaller?*

Part 2. Get Started

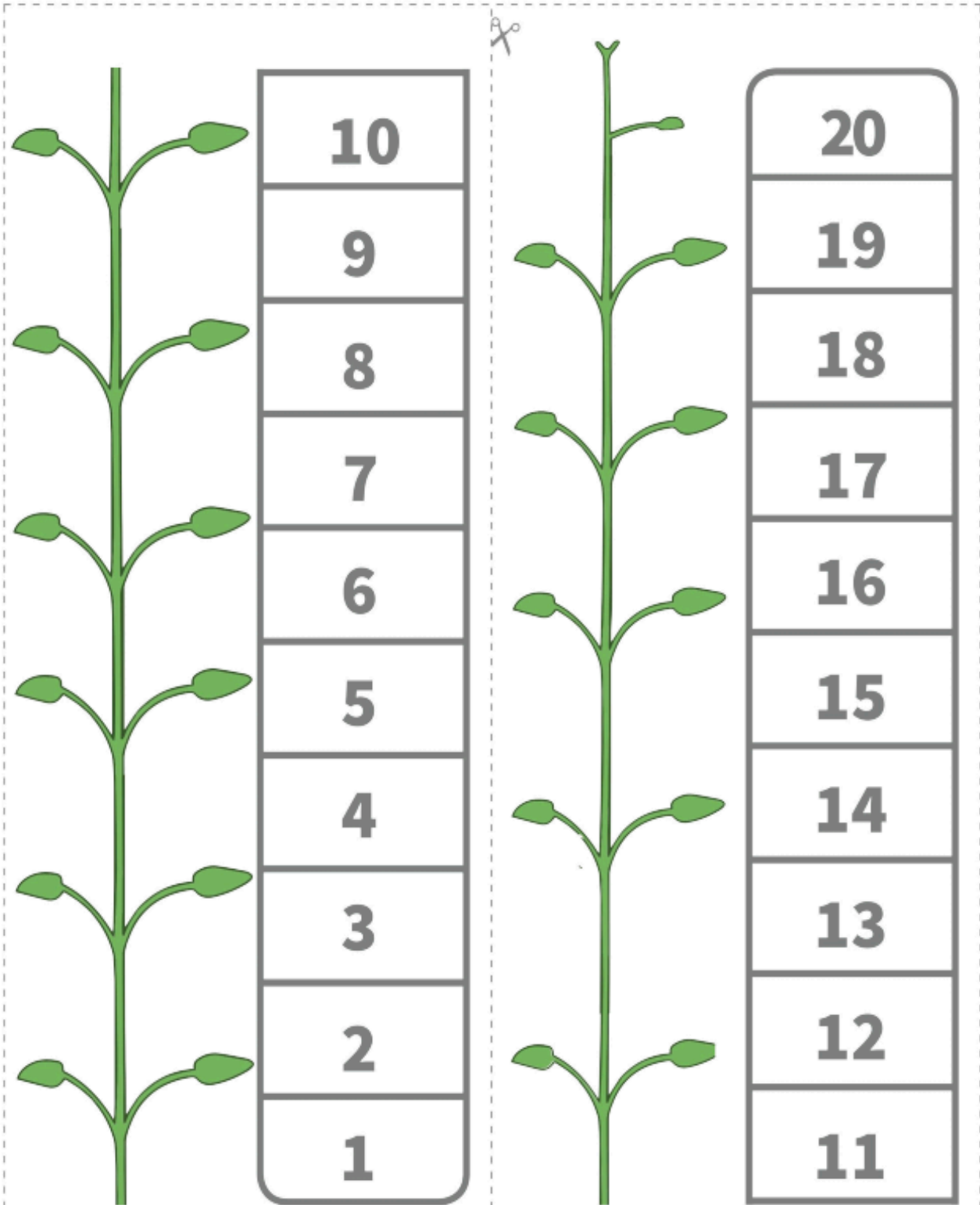
- Take turns pulling a card from the number card pile and measuring a plant that is that tall. Encourage your child to count the dots and then say how many dots in the group.
 - **Option 1:** Find a plant that measures that many units tall. Take a photo of your child holding the measuring stick next to the plant. Zoom in on the plant and the measuring stick so you can clearly see how many units tall.
 - **Option 2:** Have your child use the measuring stick to draw a plant that many units tall.
- Repeat the steps at one more time. Use the photos or drawings to compare which plant is taller or smaller. Here are a few different ways you and your child can continue:
 - line the plants from tallest to smallest
 - match plants that have the same height
 - find a plant that is taller
 - find a plant that is that many units wide





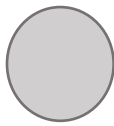
Measuring Strip

Instructions: Print on card stock. Cut out, tape together. Attach to a thin dowel.

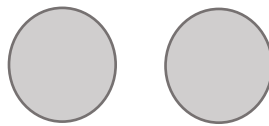




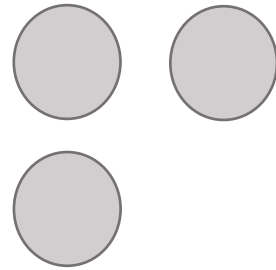
Dot Number Cards



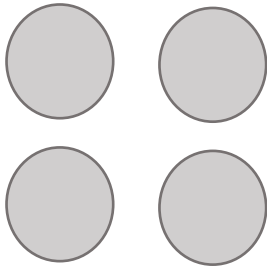
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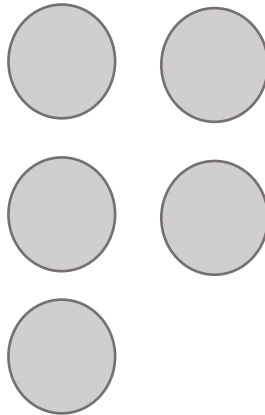
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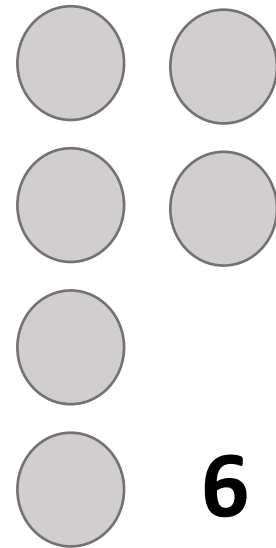
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My Plant

My plant is _____ units tall / wide.