



Family Letter for Unit 3

Dear Family,

During the next few weeks, our math class will be learning about units of measure, data collection and analysis, and graphing data.

You can expect to see work that provides practice with units of measure and data. Here are two samples you may wish to use as a guide to help your child.

Vocabulary

metric system An international system of measurement that uses meter, liter, gram, and degrees Celsius as its basic units.

cluster A group of data points that are close to each other.

gap A large space between data points.

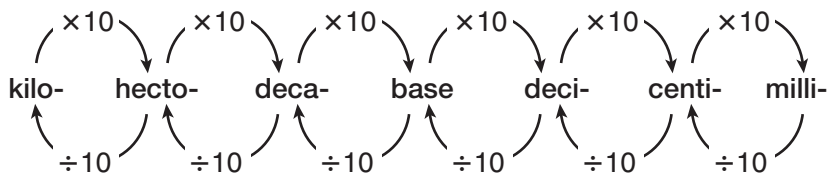
outlier A data point that has a value much greater than or much less than other data in the set.

Metric System of Measurement

The metric system of measurement is based on 10 and powers of 10. The prefixes used for length, capacity, and mass tell what part of the basic unit is being considered. The chart below shows the most commonly used units.

prefix	meaning	measure of length	measure of capacity	measure of mass
kilo-	1,000	kilometer (km)		kilogram (kg)
base unit	1	meter (m)	liter (L)	gram (g)
deci-	0.1	decimeter (dm)		
centi-	0.01	centimeter (cm)		
milli-	0.001	millimeter (mm)	milliliter (mL)	milligram (mg)

To change from a larger unit to a smaller unit, multiply by the appropriate power of 10. To change from a smaller unit to a larger unit, divide by the appropriate power of 10.



Help your child develop skill in using the metric system by discussing the metric measurements found on most food or beverage containers. You could also have your child find the size of various rooms in your home in metric units.

Sincerely,



Technology

Check out *Education Place* at eduplace.com/kids/mw/ for e•Glossary, e•Word Games, test prep practice, and more.