Lesson 48

Converting length units

MODULE 4 · MEASURES — LENGTH, MASS, CAPACITY, AREA, VOLUME MEASURES

HOW TO ANSWER TODAY

- **Convert units.** To *a* SMALLER unit → multiply. To *a* BIGGER unit → divide. Common factors: cm↔mm ×10, m↔cm ×100, km↔m ×1,000, kg↔g ×1,000, l↔ml ×1,000.
  250 cm → m: ÷ 100 = 2.5 m · 3.5 kg → g: × 1,000 = 3,500 g

TRY IT ON THE LINE

Each column is ten times the column on its right (km, hm, dam, m, dm, cm, mm). Convert by sliding the digits left (×10 per column) or right (÷10 per column).

km	hm	dam	m	dm	cm	mm

1. Build **2 m 35 cm**: 2 in **m**, then 35 cm = 3 in **dm**, 5 in **cm**. In cm? _____ In mm? _____
2. Build **1 km 250 m**: 1 in **km**, then 250 m = 2 in **hm**, 5 in **dam**. In m? _____ (km → m is *a* three-column slide).
3. Build **8 cm 5 mm**: 8 in **cm**, 5 in **mm**. In mm? _____
4. Build **3.4 m**: 3 in **m**, 4 in **dm**. In cm? _____ In mm? _____

PRACTICE

1. For STEM week, Oisín weighs the lollipop sticks and glue he is using to build *a* model bridge. The materials come to **981 g** on the kitchen scales. What is this mass in kilograms?
   Convert 981 g to kg.

2. 5th class are lining up along the corridor wall before heading out to the yard. The line stretches **717 cm** from the classroom door to the noticeboard. How long is the line in metres?
   Convert 717 cm to m.

CHALLENGE

1. 5th class are taping out *a* giant Snakes and Ladders track in the school yard, with the full snaking path measuring **5969 cm** from start to finish. For their maths display, they need to record the path length in kilometres. How many kilometres long is the track?
   Convert 5969 cm to km.

2. Saoirse cycles from granny's farmhouse to the far field to check on the calves. The lane runs **3290 m** from the gate to the field. How many kilometres is that?
   Convert 3290 m to km.