

Mass – weighing in g and kg

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

Mass is how heavy something is, measured on a weighing scale. Use **grams (g)** for small things and **kilograms (kg)** for big ones. **1 kg = 1 000 g**.

- A **€2 coin** weighs about **9 g**.
- A **bag of sugar** weighs **1 kg** (= 1 000 g).
- A **5th-class schoolbag with books** typically weighs **3–5 kg**.

HOW TO ANSWER TODAY

- **Convert units.** To a **SMALLER** unit → multiply. To a **BIGGER** unit → divide. Common factors: $\text{cm} \leftrightarrow \text{mm} \times 10$, $\text{m} \leftrightarrow \text{cm} \times 100$, $\text{km} \leftrightarrow \text{m} \times 1,000$, $\text{kg} \leftrightarrow \text{g} \times 1,000$, $\text{l} \leftrightarrow \text{ml} \times 1,000$.

250 cm → m: $\div 100 = 2.5 \text{ m}$ · 3.5 kg → g: $\times 1,000 = 3,500 \text{ g}$

WARM-UP

- 1 Tadhg's 5th class is making a long cardboard dragon out of cereal boxes for the school corridor display. The finished dragon stretches **20 m** from head to tail. How long is the dragon in centimetres?
| Convert 20 m to cm.
- 2 Aoife is designing a mosaic strip to run along the school library wall. The strip will be **15 m** long, but she needs the length in centimetres to plan the tiles. How many centimetres is **15 m**?
| Convert 15 m to cm.

PRACTICE

- 1 The art teacher mixes **892 ml** of green paint to use for the new class crest going on the 5th class Gaelic football jersey. She wants to record the amount in litres on her supplies list. How many litres of paint has she mixed?
| Convert 892 ml to l.
- 2 Saoirse measures the string holding the bird-feeder outside the 5th class window. It is **495 cm** long from the branch to the feeder. How long is the string in metres?
| Convert 495 cm to m.

CHALLENGE

- 1 5th class at St Brigid's measured the total length of ribbon left on the spools in the classroom craft store and got **7628 cm** in total. The teacher wants the answer written in kilometres for the stocktake sheet. How many kilometres is **7628 cm**?
| Convert 7628 cm to km.
- 2 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.

IRISH FACT The weight of a GAA football

A senior **GAA football** weighs between **480 g and 500 g** — about **double** the mass of a sliotar (the hurling ball), which is **110 g to 120 g**.

GAA Official Guide

