Making and Using Height-O-Meters*

You will need

- 1 Height-O-Meter outline sheet
- 1 Height-O-Meter instruction sheet
- 1 push pin
- · 1 small piece of wood or pencil eraser
- 1 sheet of thin cardboard or posterboard (8-1/ 2" x 11")
- a ruler, scissors, and glue stick to share with other students

GLUE

GLUE STICK

BACK of MASTER

To Make Your Height-O-Meter

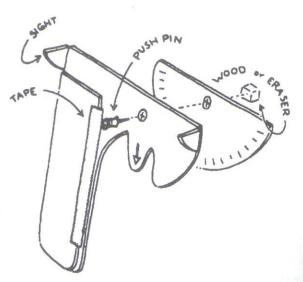
- 1. Place the Height-O-Meter outline sheet face down, and smear glue evenly on the back of the master, covering the heavy lines.
- 2. Stick the Height-O-Meter outline sheet to the cardboard sheet, pressing and smoothing it. Then cut out the two parts of the Height-O-Meter.
- 3. Lay the handle piece **printed side up**. Using a ruler, fold the two sights so they are pointing straight up. Fold the handle up and over, along the fold line. Tape the handle together lengthwise to strengthen it.
- 4. Assemble the Height-O-Meter by inserting a push pin through the tack marks of the handle piece, the half-disk, and into a small piece of wood or pencil eraser. Work the push pin around to enlarge the holes so the disk swings freely.

To Use Your Height-O-Meter

Hold the Height-O-Meter in one hand, and sight along the top edges of **both sights** so they line up with an object. Pinch the half-disk against the handle piece and read the object's height in degrees.

To Calibrate Your Height-O-Meter

Place a piece of masking tape on the wall at eye level. Step back to the middle of the room, sight on the center of the tape, and see if the Height-O-Meter reads close to zero. If it is more than one or two degrees off, place a paper clip on the half-disk and adjust it so the Height-O-Meter reads zero when pointed horizontally.



* Adapted from Height-O-Meters, a teacher's guide in the Great Explorations in Math and Science series. For more information, write to: GEMS, Lawrence Hall of Science, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720, or call (415) 642-7771.

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