



Dear Parents,

Over the next few weeks, we will be learning about **converting between measurement systems** in math! The information below will help you to support your child as they learn these exciting, yet important fifth grade math skills. **See reverse side for conversion tables!**

**The GOAL:**

By the end of the unit, your child should be able to **convert measurements within a measurement system.**

**Standard (Customary) Units**

Help your child learn about Standard Units:

You can convert one standard unit of measurement to another by multiplying or dividing.

**Multiply** to change from larger to smaller units.  
**Divide** to change from smaller to larger units.

For example:

If I want to convert from 96 ounces to pounds.

Step 1: Decide whether to multiply or **divide**.

Ounces  $\rightarrow$  Pounds  
Smaller  $\rightarrow$  Larger

Step 2: Think:

16 oz. = 1 lb.  
So 96 oz = (96  $\div$  16)

Step 3: Divide:

96  $\div$  16 = 6 lb.

For example:

If I want to convert 4 feet to inches.

Step 1: Decide whether to **multiply** or divide.

Feet  $\rightarrow$  Inches  
Larger  $\rightarrow$  Smaller

Step 2: Think:

1 ft. = 12 in.  
So 4 ft. = (4  $\times$  12)

Step 3: Multiply:

4  $\times$  12 = 48 in.

**Metric Units**

Help your child learn about Metric Units:

You can convert one metric unit of measurement to another by multiplying or dividing.

**Multiply** to change from larger to smaller units.  
**Divide** to change from smaller to larger units.

For example:

If I want to convert from 6,000 milliliters to liters.

Step 1: Decide whether to multiply or **divide**.

Milliliters  $\rightarrow$  Liters  
Smaller  $\rightarrow$  Larger

Step 2: Think:

1,000 mL = 1 L  
So 6,000 mL = (6,000  $\div$  1,000)

Step 3: Divide:

6,000  $\div$  1,000 = 6 L

For example:

If I want to convert 2 meters to centimeters.

Step 1: Decide whether to **multiply** or divide.

Meters  $\rightarrow$  Centimeters  
Larger  $\rightarrow$  Smaller

Step 2: Think:

1 m = 100 cm  
So 2 m = (2  $\times$  100)

Step 3: Multiply:

2  $\times$  100 = 200 cm

Central Dauphin School District  
Grade 5 Math: Unit 3 Parent Letter  
Measurement Conversions



Grade 5 Math: PA Core Math Standards in Unit 3

CC.2.4.5.A.1: Solve problems using conversions within a given measurement system.

Standard (Customary)  
Conversions

|                                   |
|-----------------------------------|
| 1 mile (mi.) = 1,760 yards (yd.)  |
| 1 mile (mi.) = 5,280 feet (ft.)   |
| 1 yard (yd.) = 3 feet (ft.)       |
| 1 foot = 12 inches (in.)          |
| 1 ton (T) = 2,000 pounds (lb.)    |
| 1 pounds (lb.) = 16 ounces (oz.)  |
| 1 gallon (gal.) = 4 quarts (lb.)  |
| 1 quart (qt.) = 2 pints (pt.)     |
| 1 pint (pt.) = 2 cups (c.)        |
| 1 cup (c.) = 8 fluid ounces (oz.) |

Metric Conversions

|                                      |
|--------------------------------------|
| 1 kilometer (km) = 1,000 (m)         |
| 1 meter (m) = 100 centimeter (cm)    |
| 1 centimeter = 10 millimeters (mm)   |
| 1 kilogram (kg) = 1,000 grams (g)    |
| 1 liter (L) = 1,000 milliliters (mL) |

Time Conversions

|                                     |
|-------------------------------------|
| 1 century = 10 decades              |
| 1 decade = 10 years (yr)            |
| 1 year (yr) = 12 months (mo)        |
| 1 year (yr) = 52 weeks (wk)         |
| 1 year (yr) = 365 days              |
| 1 week (wk) = 7 days                |
| 1 day = 24 hours (hr)               |
| 1 hour (hr) = 60 minutes (min)      |
| 1 minutes (min) = 60 seconds (sec.) |

-- KEY MATH VOCABULARY --

**Conversion:** to change from one unit of measure to another unit of measure

-- HOW YOU CAN HELP AT HOME --

- Encourage your child to use a ruler to measure various household items and convert measurements to other units
- Put the above conversions on notecards and practice them each night
- Allow your child to help with tasks when conversions may be used