

Discovery Lab Description:

In this lab students knowledge of fractions will be enforced as they practice measurements in the standard systems. They will learn the use some of the important shop tool safety practices. Each student will use these skills to build a key hanger that they can take home.

During the Discovery Lab students will be expected to:

- Sit 4 students per table.
- Work cooperatively with one another at the table.
- Follow the hands-on procedures just as the Lab teacher or assistant explains them.
- Handle materials and equipment carefully.
- Wear safety glasses at all times when tools are in use.

It is important that teachers and chaperones:

- Help focus the students' attention.
- Assist students with lab activities through questioning allowing the student to do the actual data collection and decision making. For example a parent might ask, "I see your base is shaky, what could you do to strengthen it?"
- Engage students at a higher level by asking open-ended questions throughout the class. For example: "Why did you choose _____?"
- Turn off cell phones and other electronic devices during the activity.

Literary connection:

To get students excited about the upcoming Discovery lesson, we suggest reading excerpts from the following book with your students: *How Big Is a Foot?* by Rolf Myller. This book teaches students the importance of standard measurement by following the story of a king who wants to create a birthday gift for his queen.

Link to video: <https://youtu.be/bWhWL1MET7A>

Common Core Math Standard:

3-5.NF. Apply and extend previous understandings of multiplication and divisions to multiply and divide fractions.

