

4.12 Present and past tense

Topic: Measurement

Subtopic: Length

Activity type/skill: Verb forms

Literacy focus: Vocabulary

Objective

- Discriminate between simple present and past tense verb forms.
- Use target vocabulary in a new context.

What you need

- Student worksheet (see next page)
- [Audio track 4.12a](#)
- [Audio track 4.12b](#)

What to do

1. Look at the top of the student worksheet and explain that students will hear sentences containing one of the words from each pair. Some of the words end in the -ed past tense form, others do not.
2. Play track 4.12a (Track 4 for this topic) and have students listen and tick the word they hear. Compare answers.
3. Look at the bottom of the student worksheet. Play track 4.12b (Track 5 for this topic) and have students listen and read the story.
4. Have students work in pairs to recreate the story using as many of the words they have learned in this section as they can. For example, 'The king estimated the length and width of the bed using his feet. He worked out that the bed should be...'
5. When each pair is satisfied with their version, they should tell it to the rest of the group. Reward the pair who can use the most new words appropriately.

Answers:

add

check

compared

count

estimated

multiplied

subtract

worked out

Extending the activity

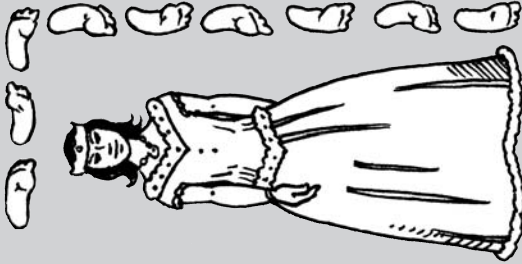
- Construct a version of the story on the board with the students and do a vanishing cloze. The version must be grammatically correct and use the target vocabulary correctly. Students read the whole text aloud from the board, then you rub out every fifth word. The students read again and say the missing words. You rub out the fifth words again and the students read and supply the missing words. Continue until the whole text has been rubbed out and the students can recite it or until they are not able to supply the words.

Activity twelve

Track 4

- | | | |
|----|----------|------------|
| 1. | add | added |
| 2. | check | checked |
| 3. | compare | compared |
| 4. | count | counted |
| 5. | estimate | estimated |
| 6. | multiply | multiplied |
| 7. | subtract | subtracted |
| 8. | work out | worked out |

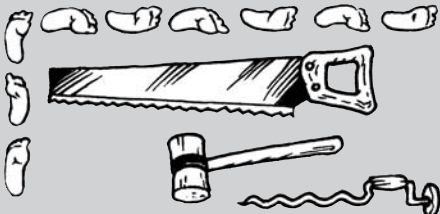
Track 5



1. A king decided to get the queen a bed for her birthday. The king measured the queen using his feet. He decided that the bed should be three feet wide and six feet long.



2. He went to the Royal Carpenter and said, "Build the queen a bed that is three feet wide and six feet long".



3. The carpenter used his own feet to measure three feet wide and six feet long.



4. When the bed was ready it was much too small for the Queen.