

Estimating Height

Estimate how tall the tree is.

Discuss how you can measure it (without climbing it).

Work with a partner.

Number 1 stands with their back against the tree.

Number 2 faces their partner but moves back a fair distance.

Number 2 closes one eye and holds a pencil vertically at arm's length, so that the point is level with the top of the tree and the bottom is level with the bottom of the tree.

Number 2 stays in the same place and turns their hand so that the pencil is horizontal, keeping the bottom level with the bottom of the tree.

Number 1 walks away from the tree to the side so they appear to be walking along their partner's pencil. When they reach the end of the pencil they should stop.

Now, using a tape measure, Number 2 measures the distance between Number 1 and the tree. This measurement is approximately the same as the height of the tree.

