Recommended Measurement and Data Picture Books

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Each page of this book lists questions that ask the reader to observe and distinguish among the illustrations. Readers are asked to count the number of flowers with black centers, or the snails with striped shells, or the number of tiny books. Children can track the various items they count on each page and sort them into groups.


In this book, a young boy watches the world around him grow up through the seasons—a puppy turns into a dog, a seed turns into a flower. The book takes the reader through the seasons beginning with early spring. Children can discuss size and growth as the boy watches other living things grow and wonders if he will grow up too.


This book is about an inchworm that is threatened by a robin. The worm agrees to measure the robin to avoid becoming the robin’s next meal. This book introduces children to the concept of non-standard measurement when the worm uses clever ways to measure different birds.


In this book, the O’Malley children make the drive to the beach more fun by tallying up all the different things they see. From cars to t-shirts, the reader can keep track of the tally marks alongside the characters and help them decide the winner with the most tally marks.


This book compares objects of different sizes. For example, a berry is taller than an ant and a snail is taller than a berry. Each new object becomes increasingly larger, until you get to the largest object on the last page. Children can learn how objects can be both smaller than some things and bigger than others.


This book is about an elephant and a mouse that play together on a seesaw. As they do so, they call upon their animal friends to try and balance the scales. Several animals have to tip the scale so that the elephant (and the rest of the animals) are in perfect balance. The book introduces children to the concept of scales and weight distribution.

In this simple yet engaging story, two mice create a teeter-totter by balancing a stick on a rock. When a salamander joins them, it creates an imbalance. Children can make predictions about what will happen when more and more creatures flock to either side of the stick.


This is a book about hungry animal friends who find a delicious peach but cannot decide who should take the first bite. Each animal introduces a different aspect of measurement to argue why it should go first. This book can be used to explore different ways to measure.