

ACTIVITY IA11.1: Finding Half Way

Intended learning: To find halfway along an object by estimating a linear partition and verifying the closest answer.

Description: Attach a length of ribbon or paper tape to the wall. Tell your students that you are going to move a ruler (held vertically to act as a pointer) across in front of the ribbon and ask them to put up their hands when the pointer is half way across. If multiple answers are suggested, select and record the location of two or three of the answers together with names of the students who suggested them. Ask your students to tell you how we could determine who was closest to half way. Invite a student to demonstrate his or her method of determining half way and explain which answer was closer.

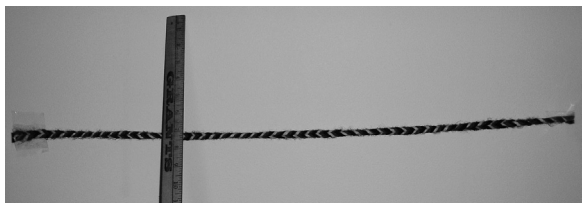


Photo 11.1 Finding half way

Variation: Select and record two answers and ask your students to line up behind whichever student they believe is closest to half way. Next ask your class if the two lines of students are equal. Does half of the class support one answer or is it more than half of the class?