

GRADE 5 LEARNING PACK

The Scale on the Corner

Use narrative evidence to reason about scale, units and route trade-offs.

LEARN • PRACTISE • CREATE • REFLECT

Original BrightPencil Kids resource - adult-led where appropriate

A4 edition • 12 purposeful pages • review copy

Print. Learn. Grow.

Grown-up guide

Learning objective

Use narrative evidence to reason about scale, units and route trade-offs.

Use this pack well

- Model the first example aloud, then let the learner try.
- Ask “How do you know?” more often than “Are you finished?”.
- Use real objects, talk, movement or observation when the activity suggests it.
- Stop or shorten the session if attention or enjoyment drops.
- Open-ended pages can have many successful answers.

Quality note

This resource was written originally for BrightPencil Kids. Curriculum sources informed scope and progression only; no third-party worksheet or story text is reproduced.

Read the story

PART 1

Mara's class planned a charity walk on a fictional town map. She measured the route carefully and wrote 8.4 centimetres in her notebook.

PART 2

The map scale read 1 cm = 750 m. A friend multiplied by 750 but forgot to convert metres into kilometres before announcing the answer.

PART 3

Instead of crossing out the work, Mara labelled each unit on every step. The route became 6,300 metres, or 6.3 kilometres.

PART 4

That changed the group's plan. They had promised a route below five kilometres, so they compared a shorter alternative that crossed one steep hill.

PART 5

Their final choice was not simply the shortest line. They wrote a justification using distance, slope, rest points and accessibility.

Summarise the problem in no more than three sentences.

Identify the turning point where the character changes method or interpretation.

Match each inference to the strongest story evidence.

Write an alternative choice and predict a plausible consequence.

Explain the transferable strategy from the story in your own words.

Try it beyond the page

Real-world / hands-on connection

Retell the reasoning problem to a trusted adult and explain which evidence mattered most.

Before you finish

What did you notice?

What evidence, object or example helped you?

What would you change if you tried again?

Create something

Your project

Create a one-page response: key evidence, inference, strategy learned and a new scenario where it could help.

Use this space for planning, drawing, mapping, designing or notes.

CHALLENGE

Think deeper

1. Why did the first answer cause confusion?

2. Why was the shortest route not automatically best?

3. What did the group include in its justification?

Quick review

1. In one sentence, explain the big idea of “The Scale on the Corner”.

2. Draw or write one example that shows you understand.

3. Choose one activity from this pack and explain the strategy you used.

4. Write one question you still have.

Answer & discussion notes

Use these as guidance, not scripts. Open questions can have different successful responses when the reasoning is sensible and evidence-based.

1. Suggested response

Units were not tracked through the calculation.

2. Suggested response

Slope and accessibility also mattered.

3. Suggested response

Distance plus route constraints and user needs.

Review before publication

Check age fit, factual accuracy, clarity, accessibility, rights provenance and whether the activity works in practice. This file remains a review copy until those checks are signed off.

My learning reflection

I finished this BrightPencil learning pack.

One thing I understand better now:

A strategy that helped me:

Something I created or noticed:

My next small question or goal:
