

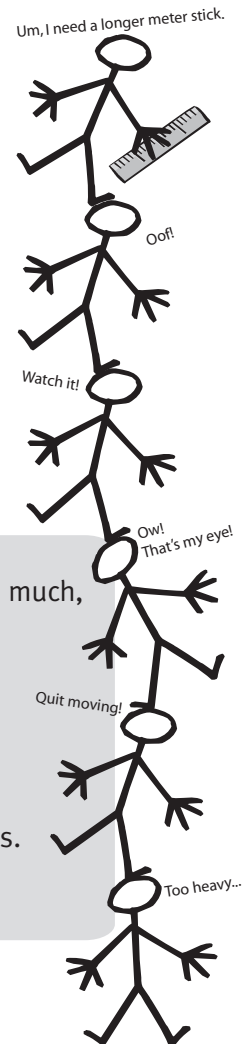
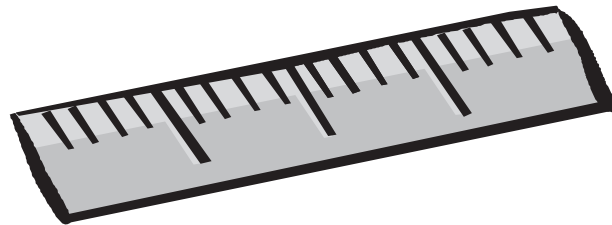
# Big Lab

## Pre-Visit Activity How Tall is the Mega Tower?

Soon, your class will be visiting the Big Lab and seeing how parachutes work using the Mega Tower. The Mega Tower reaches a height of over 9 meters. In this activity, you will find out how many people in your class it would take to equal the height of the Mega Tower!

### Materials

- Meter Stick
- Pencil/Pen
- Paper
- Calculator
- Masking tape



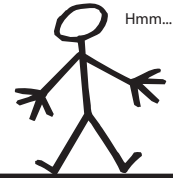
A meter is a way to measure distance or height. 9 meters may not sound like much, but when we change from meters to feet it seems a lot bigger.

So how long is a meter? One meter is about 3 feet 3 inches. Can you estimate how many meters tall you might be?

**Teachers:** If meter sticks are unavailable, [http://www.onlineconversion.com/length\\_common.htm](http://www.onlineconversion.com/length_common.htm) offers online conversions.

### Try This

1. Stand against a wall and have a partner mark how tall you are with a small piece of masking tape.
2. Use the meter stick to measure how tall you are in meters.
3. Once you find your height in meters and centimeters, put a decimal between the two numbers. 1 meter and 62 centimeters = 1.62 meters.
4. Get a group of students together that would equal the height of the Mega Tower. Hint: Add up all your numbers and see if they equal at least 9.
5. If you stretch your arms straight out, it equals your height. Have everyone in your group stand in a line with their arms stretched out so that only your fingertips touch. This will give you an idea of how tall the Mega Tower is.



# Big Lab

## Pre-Visit Activity How Tall is the Mega Tower?

### Things to Think About:

1. How many students does it take to get to 9 meters?

2. Would you rather tell someone your height in feet or meters? Why?

3. Many rooms are about 10 feet tall. About how many meters is this?  
If you are on the top of the Mega Tower, which floor would you be on?