

LESSON PLAN: INTRODUCTION TO PERFORMING BASIC LAND SURVEYS



NYSAPLS, Inc. 146 Washington Avenue, Albany NY 12210

Introduction to Performing Basic Land Surveys

Objectives

1. Introduce the concept of performing basic land surveys.
2. Using a hands-on exercise, students will learn the fundamentals of surveying a plot of land.

Materials

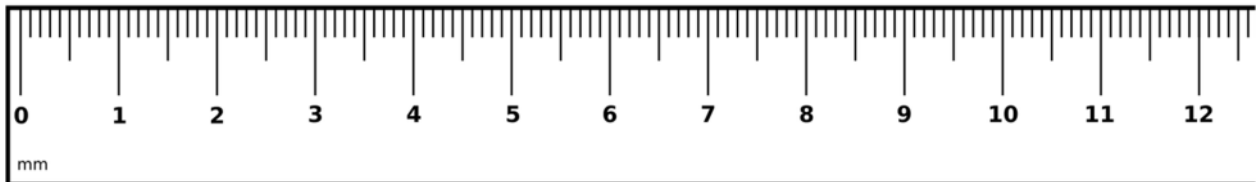
1. Paper and Pencil
2. Tape measure and/or Yardstick



Procedure

Students will perform two land surveys at a location of their choice: It can be in their backyard, a park, or other easily accessible outdoor space.

1. **First Survey:** Students will approximate all measurements, distances and scales of the area in question. No measuring tools will be used.
 - a. Students create a birds-eye view map of the area, including as much detail as possible, such as estimated measurements of distances and various points of interest such as hills, rocks, valleys or monuments.
2. **Second Survey:** After completing the first survey, the students should now utilize a tool of measurement (tape measure or yardstick)
 - a. Students create another birds-eye view map of the area, using measurement tools and marking distances to various points.



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Wrap up/Questions

1. Was it difficult getting an accurate measurement just by estimating and not using the measuring tools?
2. How far off were you between you estimate and the measurement?
3. What are some reasons that having very accurate distance measurements may be important to someone in the land surveying industry?



Homework

Research and write up background information on five different land surveying tools, and makes sure to include what they are used for; how they are used; and why they are important in the land surveying industry.