CALIFORNIA
ACADEMY OF
SCIENCES

# How Many Erasers Long is a Snake?

The longest snake in the world is the reticulated python, measuring over 15 feet (4.5 meters) on average. But what if you wanted to know how long this snake was in everyday objects?

In this activity, you will discover how long a 15 foot (4.5 meter) reticulated python is when compared to objects you have around the house.

## Materials

1 foot-long ruler (with both inches and centimeters)
Recording sheet (page 2)
Pen or pencil
Various objects in your house

## Directions

1. **Print** the worksheet on page 2 (or use a blank sheet of paper).

2. **Find** 2 objects around your house and **measure** their length. **Record** the names of the items and their length in inches on the worksheet.

3. **Use a calculator** (or your math skills) to figure out how many of your objects you would need to be as long as a 15 foot python. There are 12 inches in 1 foot, and pythons are about 15 feet. So, if we multiply 12 inches by 15 feet, we see that there are 180 inches in 15 feet.

   Divide 180 inches by the length of your object. This will equal how many of your objects will fit within 15 feet.

   180/_____(object length) = _____ (number of objects)

4. **Record** your object's length and the number of the objects you calculated you would need to be as long as a 15 foot python.

5. *Challenge*: Measure your height in inches and record it. Use the same calculations to figure out how many of you equal a python.

## Measurements

**My object is a(n):**_____**eraser**_____

It is ____**2**____ inches long

Because there are 180 inches in 15 feet, divide 180 inches by the length of your object to get how many of your objects it would take to be as long as a python.

180 inches/____**2**____ inches (object length) =____**90**____

It would take ___**90**___ ____**erasers**____(my object) to be as long as a 15 foot python.



**My object is a(n):**_____

It is _____ inches long

Because there are 180 inches in 15 feet, divide 180 inches by the length of your object to get how many of your objects it would take to be as long as a python.

180 inches/_____ inches (object length) =_____

It would take _____ _____(my object) to be as long as a 15 foot python



**My object is a(n):**_____

It is _____ inches long

Because there are 180 inches in 15 feet, divide 180 inches by the length of your object to get how many of your objects it would take to be as long as a python.

180 inches/_____ inches (object length) =_____

It would take _____ _____(my object) to be as long as a 15 foot python