Customary Units of Length

A ruler is used to measure length. A ruler that is 1 foot long shows 12 inches in 1 foot. A ruler that is 3 feet long is called a yardstick. There are 3 feet in 1 yard.

How does the size of a foot compare to the size of an inch?

Step 1 A small paper clip is about 1 inch long. Below is a drawing of a chain of paper clips that is about 1 foot long. Number each paper clip, starting with 1.



Step 2 Complete this sentence.

In the chain of paper clips shown, there are ______ paper clips.

Step 3 Compare the size of 1 inch to the size of 1 foot.

There are 12 inches in 1 foot.

So, 1 foot is 12 times as long as 1 inch.

Complete.