

OBJECTIVES

To make valid observations of plants and their parts. To measure length, width, and circumference with estimation and accurate measurement techniques. To communicate findings clearly.

MATERIALS PROVIDED

Lesson plan activity

Kool Kumara Profile - record sheet master

MATERIALS NEEDED

One kumara per student*

Note: Kaipara Kumara MAY be able to send your class a free bag of kumara. Send an email to info@kumara.co.nz and see if any are available.

Rulers

Measuring tapes

Balance scales

Small labelling stickers

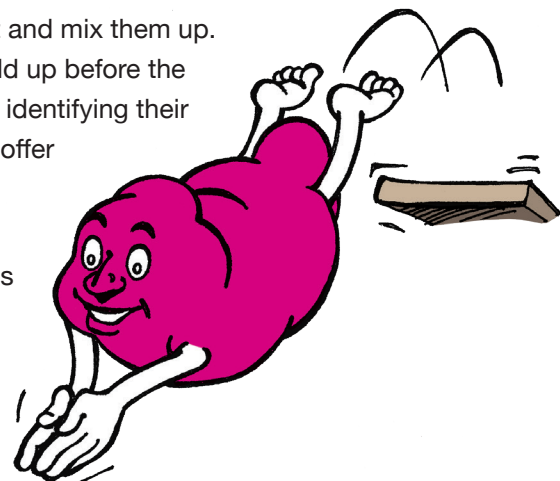
ACTIVITY: KOOL KUMARA PROFILE

Allow each student to select a kumara from a box or basket. Instruct students to observe their kumara carefully and note any special attributes it may have. Students should estimate the length, width, and circumference of the kumara and record their estimates. They should follow up by selecting the appropriate measuring tools and determining accurate measurements to go along with each estimate. They should then compare their estimates with the accurate measurements obtained and report their findings to the class. All data should be recorded on the Kool Kumara Profile record sheet provided.

The assignment may include a formal written comparison, an oral presentation, or both. After the observation activity concludes, have students place a small sticker with their initials on the bottom of their kumara. Return all kumara to the box or basket and mix them up.

Challenge students to correctly identify their kumara as it is held up before the class for examination. If the students are having a difficult time identifying their kumara, the teacher can measure, weigh, etc. the kumara and offer that information as hints.

* Note: The same kumara can be used for the Social Studies “Kumara Pal” activity. If kumara supply is limited, have students complete above assignment in small groups rather than individually.



KOOL KUMARA PROFILE Data Record Sheet

Notes on appearance

DRAWING

MEASUREMENTS

	Estimation	Accurate Measurement	Comments
Weight (grams)			
Length			
Width			
Circumference			

REPORT

1. How did your estimations compare to the accurate measurements?
2. How does the size of your kumara compare to others in your class?
3. What else would you like to know about kumara based on your findings today? How would you go about finding the information you seek?