

How Round is Round?

Learning Target: Given a variety of circular objects, students will find the circumference and diameter of the objects. Students will also explain, in writing, the relationship between the circumference and diameter of circular objects.

Activity: Ask students if they know how to find the distance around circular objects. Next, discuss how to measure the diameter and circumference of round objects. Divide students into groups of 2-3. Each group will have the following materials: round objects (plate, glass, candle, bowl, roll of tape, water bottle, lamp shade, frisbee, and CD), metric ruler, and string. Model to students how they will complete this activity by following the directions below.

1. Write the name of the circular object on the chart.
2. Wrap the string around the base of the object.
3. Cut the string once you have stretched it around the object and identified a cutting point.
4. Use the ruler to measure the length of the string. This is the object's circumference (C). Record this number in the section labeled **circumference**.
5. Trace the base of the circular object. Using the metric ruler, students will measure the middle of the circle. This is the object's diameter (d). Record this number in the section on the chart labeled **diameter**.
6. Divide the circumference by the diameter. Round the quotient to the nearest hundredth of a centimeter. Place this number in the **C/d** section of the chart.

Object	Circumference	Diameter	C/d

Remember to provide feedback during and following the activity.

Formative Assessment: At the end of the activity, each group should present the findings. The teacher collects the activity sheets to determine whether the students found the circumference and diameter of the objects correctly. Also, provide a reflection question in which students write and explain the relationship between the circumference and diameter of circular objects



based on findings in the chart. They should find that the circumference is more than three times as long as the diameter.