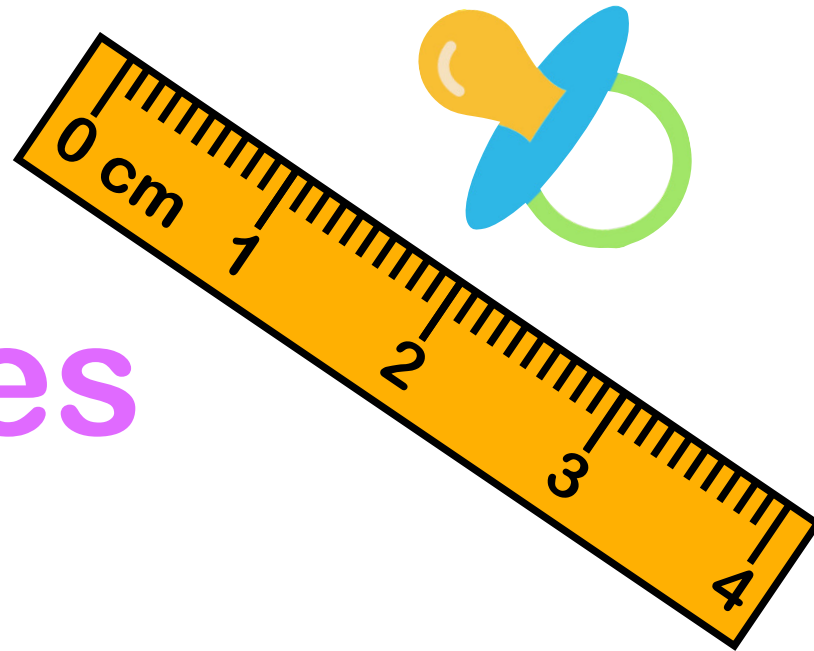# SIGNIFICANT FIGURES

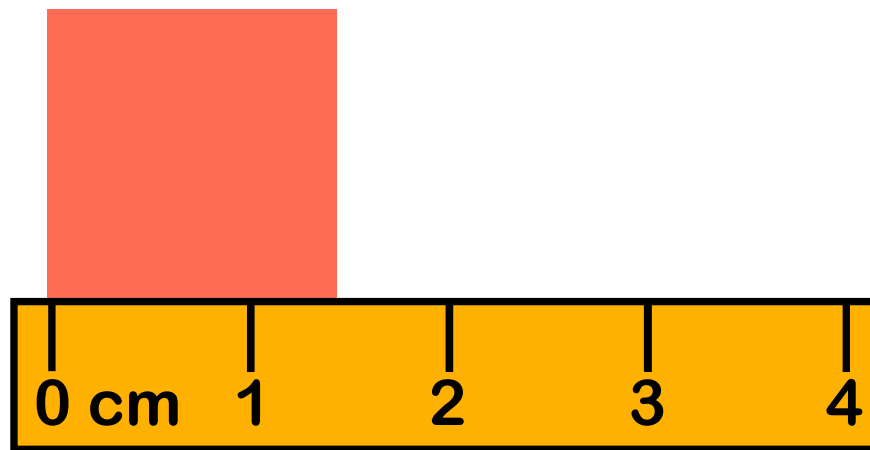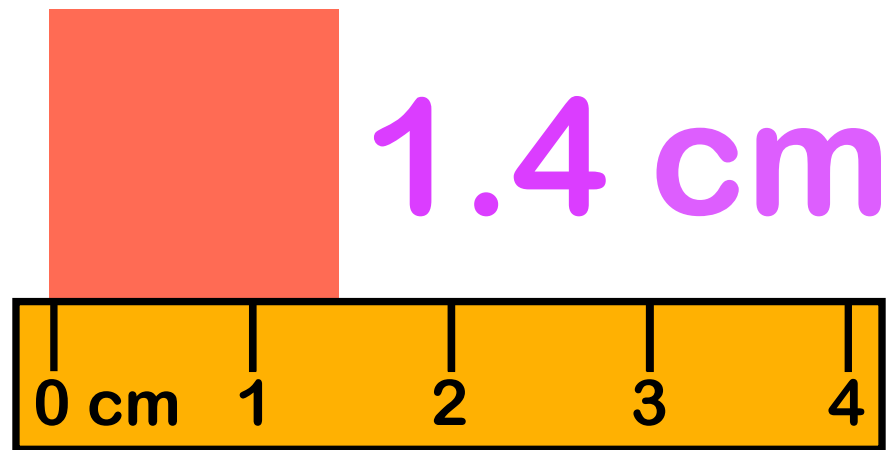## for

babies

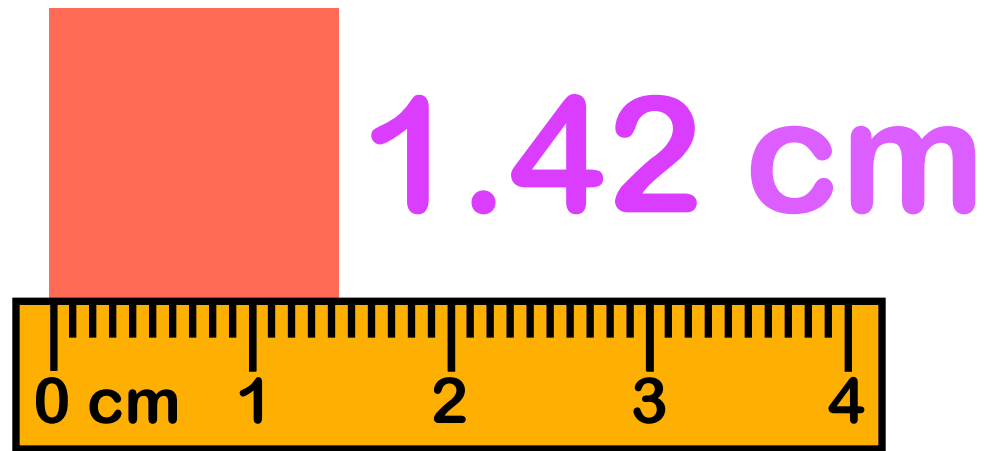**Ms. Wahl**

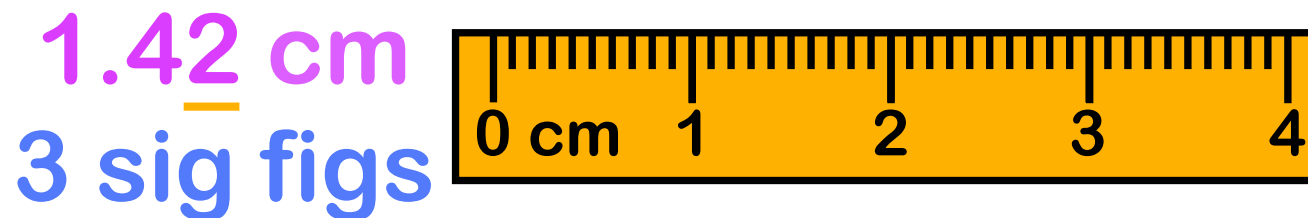This is a block.
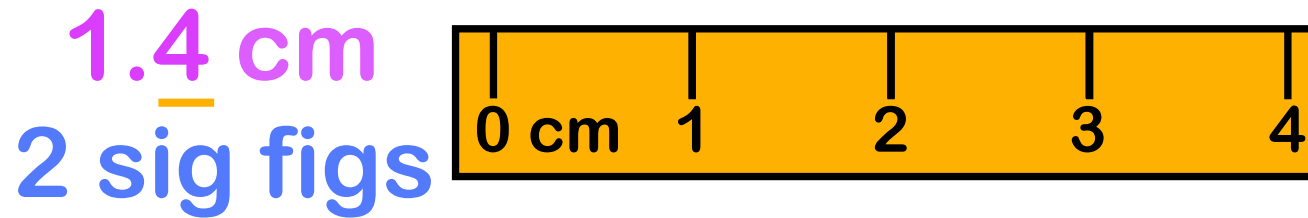
This block can be measured.

1.4 cm

This is a **measurement**.
It has two **significant figures**.

1.42 cm

This **measurement** has
three **significant figures**.

1.4 cm
2 sig figs

0 cm 1 2 3 4

1.42 cm
3 sig figs

0 cm 1 2 3 4

Significant figures show how accurate a **measurement** is. The last digit is estimated.

This block can be counted.
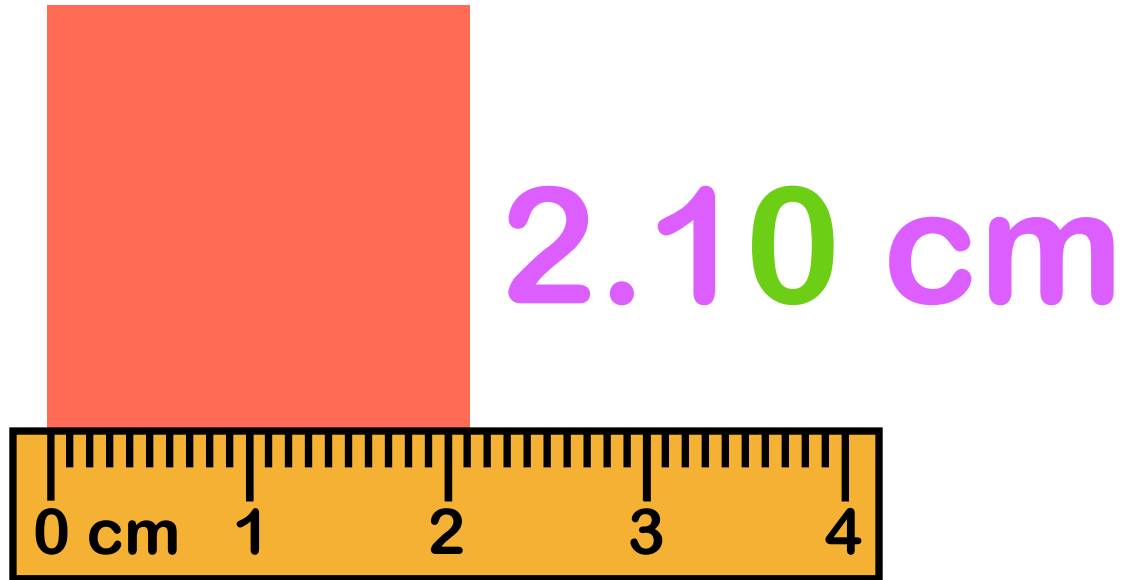
1, 2, 3 blocks.

3 blocks

This is a **counting number**.

3 blocks
∞ sig figs
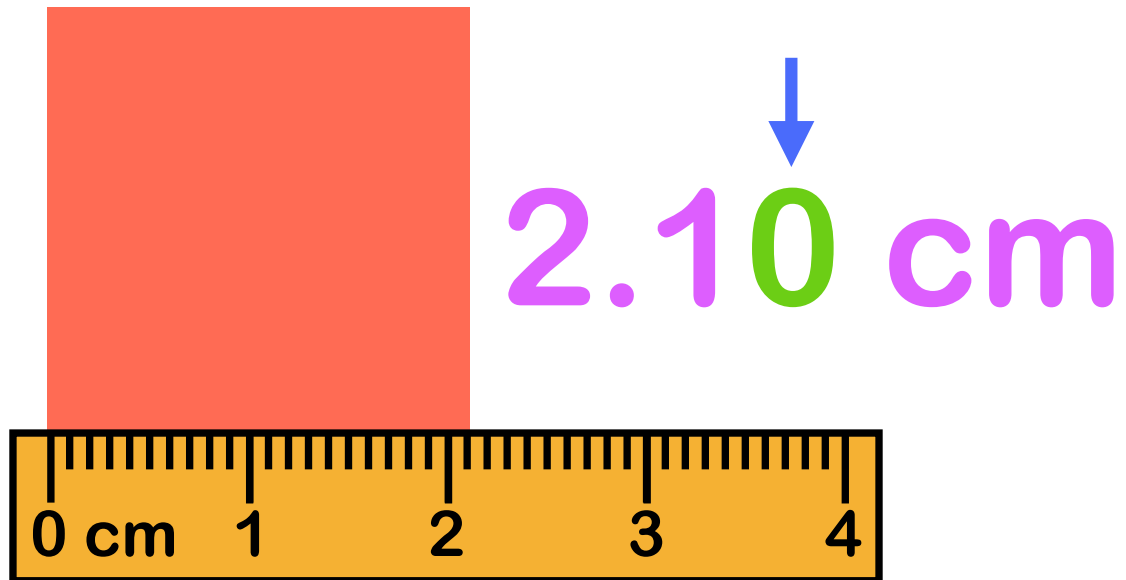

Counting numbers have an infinite number of **significant figures**.

0

This is a zero.

2.10 cm

This measurement has three significant figures.

↓

2.10 cm

This zero is significant.

20.0 👍

203 👍

1007 👍

202.0 👍

Sometimes zeros are significant.

2**0** 👎

23**0** 👎

17**00** 👎

0.002 👎

Sometimes they are not.

0.002

These zeros are alone on the left.

0.002 👎

They are never significant.

1700

20.0

These zeros are alone on the right.

1700 👎

20.0 👍
↑

They are significant if there is
a decimal point in the number.

Now you
are a
SIG FIG
EXPERT!