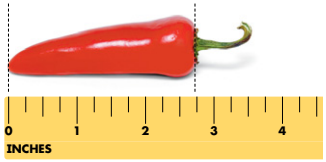
Fractions of an Inch

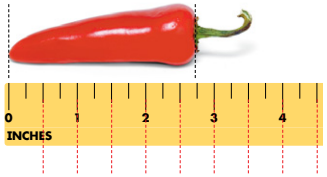
How do you measure to a fraction of an inch?

In the picture, what is the length of the red pepper to the nearest $\frac{1}{2}$ inch and to the nearest $\frac{1}{4}$ inch?



Hands-On
inch ruler

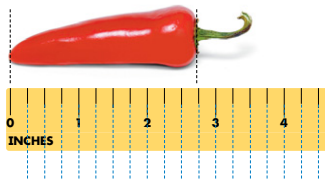
Measure to the nearest $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.



The red marks are all $\frac{1}{2}$-inch marks. The nearest $\frac{1}{2}$-inch marks are $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches and 3 inches.

To the nearest $\frac{1}{2}$ inch: $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches

Measure to the nearest $\frac{1}{4}$ inch.



The blue marks are all $\frac{1}{4}$-inch marks. The nearest $\frac{1}{4}$-inch marks are $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches and $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

To the nearest $\frac{1}{4}$ inch: $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches

- How does the ruler show fractions?
- How do you think the marks on the ruler can help you measure?
- Between which two $\frac{1}{2}$-inch marks does the end of the pepper lie?
- Why are there two different measurements for the length of the red pepper?
- Why are there fraction measurements between the whole numbers?