

## ACTIVITY 14

### Record Breakers

#### Suggested Learning Intentions

Pupils learn to:

- be aware of different world records relating to length;
- estimate length more accurately; and
- add or subtract length in metres and centimetres or as decimals.

#### Suggested Learning and Teaching Activities

Begin by sharing the world record for the men's long jump with your pupils. Discuss the history of the jump.

In 1991 in Tokyo, an American athlete called Mike Powell broke the men's world long jump record. His jump of 8.95 m broke the previous record held by Bob Beamon by 5 centimetres. Beamon's record at that time had stood for over 23 years and Powell's record still stands in 2019. This shows how remarkable a feat both men achieved.

Explain how Powell broke the long-standing world record. Encourage them to [watch footage of the jump online](#). Ask them to estimate the length of the jump in the school hall or playground and then measure the actual distance. Introduce the activities on **Pupil Resource R Record Breakers**.

#### Activity

Take your class to the school hall, playground or sports field. Ask your pupils to mark out what they estimate to be 8.95 m. Use a long tape measure to mark out the length of the world long jump record. Encourage your pupils to compare the actual length to their estimates. They could also compare the length of the classroom or other rooms in the school to the length of the long jump record.

Ask your pupils to calculate how many jumps they need to make to cover 8.95 m. Encourage them to record the distance they jump each time. Make sure they calculate their longest and shortest jump. Find out which pupil can do it in the lowest number of jumps.

Ask your pupils to record the longest jump for each person and work out what the mean is for the longest jump.

#### Extension

With your pupils, explore other world athletics records such as discus, javelin or shot-putt. Encourage your pupils to estimate and measure these distances. Let your pupils decide what equipment to use to make the measurement. Ask them to calculate how many throws of the discus they need to make to match the world record.

## Resource R: Record Breakers

From a standing start, jump as far as you can. Ask a friend to measure the length of each jump. Jump again. Add the length of this jump to the previous one. This is called the cumulative length. Keep doing this until the cumulative length of all of your jumps reaches, or passes, 8.95 m. Record the length of your jumps in the table below. Here is an example for you.

This table shows a record of Patrick's jumps.

Pupil Name: Patrick		
Number of Jump	Length of Jump	Cumulative Length
1st	1.47 m	1.47 m
2nd	1.48 m	2.95 m
3rd	1.55 m	4.50 m
4th	1.52 m	6.02 m
5th	1.47 m	7.49 m
6th	1.47 m	8.96 m

Number of jumps Patrick took to match or beat world record: 6.

The table shows that Patrick took 6 jumps to pass Michael Powell's world long jump record of 8.95 m, beating it by 1 cm!



Now use this table to record the length of your own jumps.

Pupil Name: _____		
Number of Jump	Length of Jump	Cumulative Length
1st		
2nd		
3rd		
4th		
5th		
6th		
7th		
8th		
9th		
10th		

Number of jumps you took to match or beat world record \_\_\_\_\_.

