Largest

Purpose
To show the length of two of the world’s largest animals.

Materials
Ruler
3 pencils
Large, open outdoor area

Procedure
1. Lay the ruler on the floor and stand with one of your feet at one end of the ruler. Take a step that is 1 foot (30 cm) long. Practice several times so that you can take 1-foot (30-cm) steps without the ruler.
2. In the large, open outdoor area, stick one of the pencils into the ground and hold the other two pencils.
3. Stand next to the pencil in the ground, then walk for ward 70 feet (21 m) by taking seventy 1-foot (30-cm) steps. Place the second pencil in the ground at the 70-foot (21-m) mark.
4. From the second pencil, walk another 30 feet (9 m) and place the last pencil in the ground at the 100-foot (30-m) mark.

Results
The distances that you have marked are the lengths of two of the world’s largest animals.

Why?
The shorter of the two measurements, 70 feet (21 m), is the length of one of the largest dinosaurs, the brachiosaurus. But as big as this dinosaur was, it did not reach the size of the blue whale. The giant blue whale, the world’s largest animal, may grow to a length of 100 feet (30 m).