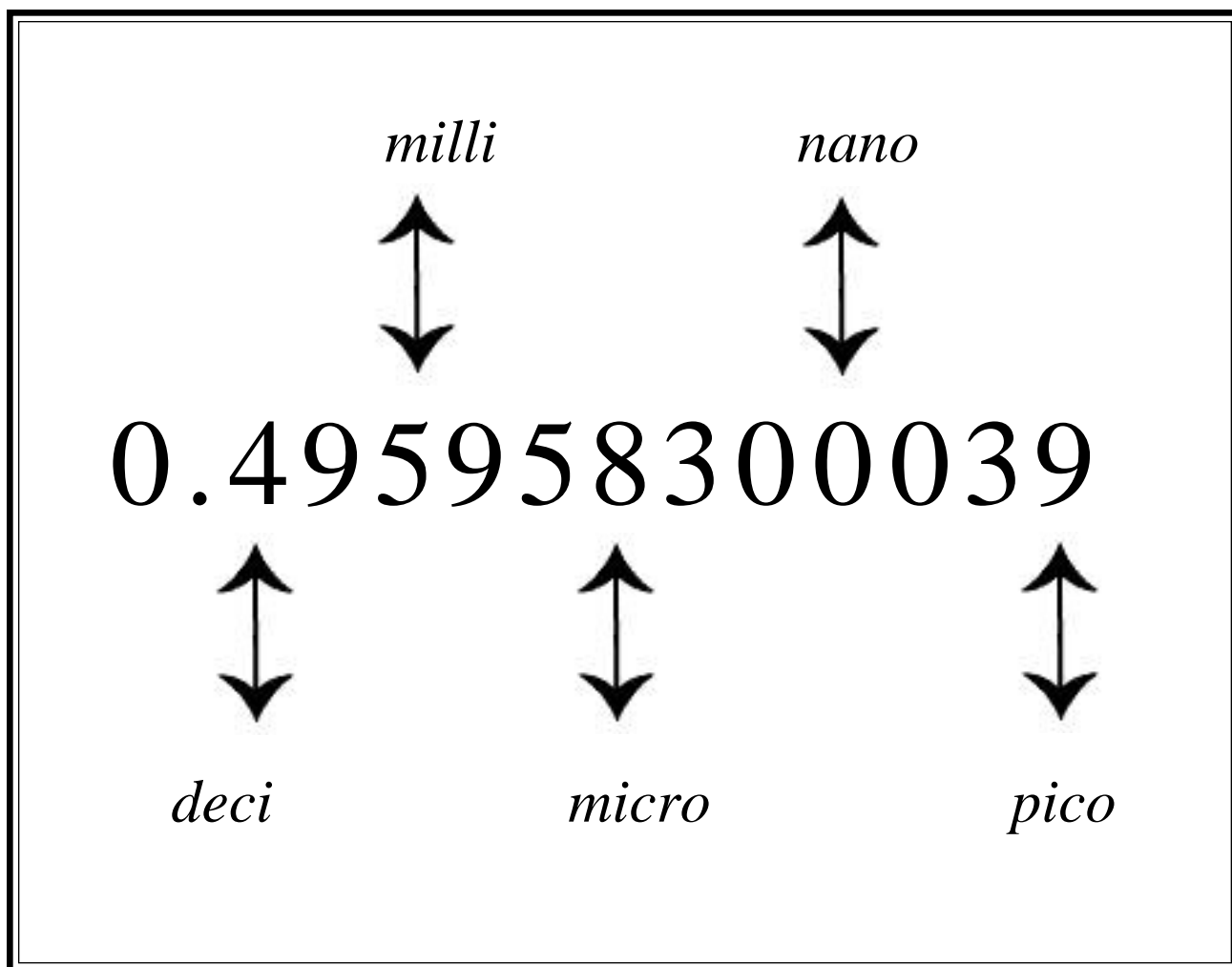


## INVESTIGATION 3

## What is a pico?

Review some units



# INVESTIGATION 3

# What is a pico?

\_\_\_\_\_

Name

## Study the Chart

Metric Chart					
Prefix	Meaning	Number	Common Lengths	Common Volumes	Common Masses
pico-	One trillionth	1 / 1,000,000,000,000			picogram
nano-	One billionth	1 / 1,000,000,000			
micro-	One millionth	1 / 1,000,000	micron		microgram
milli-	One thousandth	1 / 1,000	millimeter	milliter	milligram
centi-	One hundredth	1 / 100	centimeter		
deci-	One tenth	1 / 10		deciliter	
no prefix	One	1	meter	liter	gram

### Common Length (expressed in meters)

- How many millimeters in a centimeter? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many picometers in a centimeter? \_\_\_\_\_

### Common Volume (expressed in liters)

- How many milliliters in a liter? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many picoliters in a milliliter? \_\_\_\_\_

### Common Mass (expressed in grams)

- How many micrograms in a gram? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many picograms in a gram? \_\_\_\_\_

## INVESTIGATION 3

## What is a pico?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Complete the Chart

Object Width	Millimeter (mm)	Micrometer -1,000 mm	Nanometer -1,000,000 mm	Picometer -1,000,000,000 mm
book				
cardboard				
candy bar				
rope				
staple				
needle				
fingernail				

## Pico- (One-trillionth)

- How many picometers equal the width of a book? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many picometers equal the width of a staple? \_\_\_\_\_

The unit for measuring radioactivity is the curie. A curie tells how much radioactivity is released each second. One curie is the same as 37 billion releases of energy each second. The radioactivity given off by radon is usually measured in picocuries (pCi) or trillionths of a curie.

- Explain in your own words how much a picocurie is?

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Notes