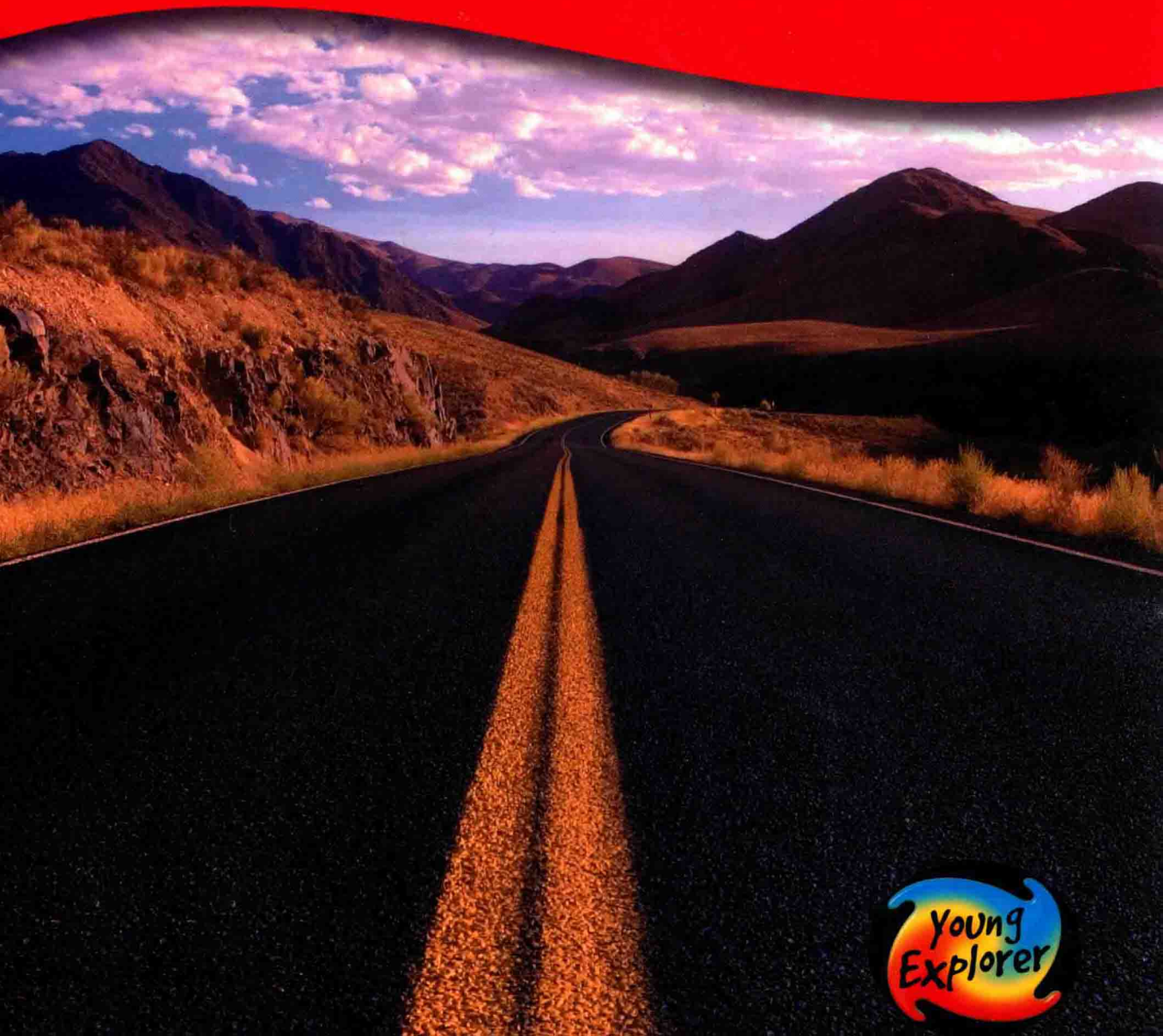


MEASURING AND COMPARING

How Far is Far?

COMPARING GEOGRAPHICAL DISTANCES



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How Far is Far?

Comparing Geographical Distances



Vic Parker








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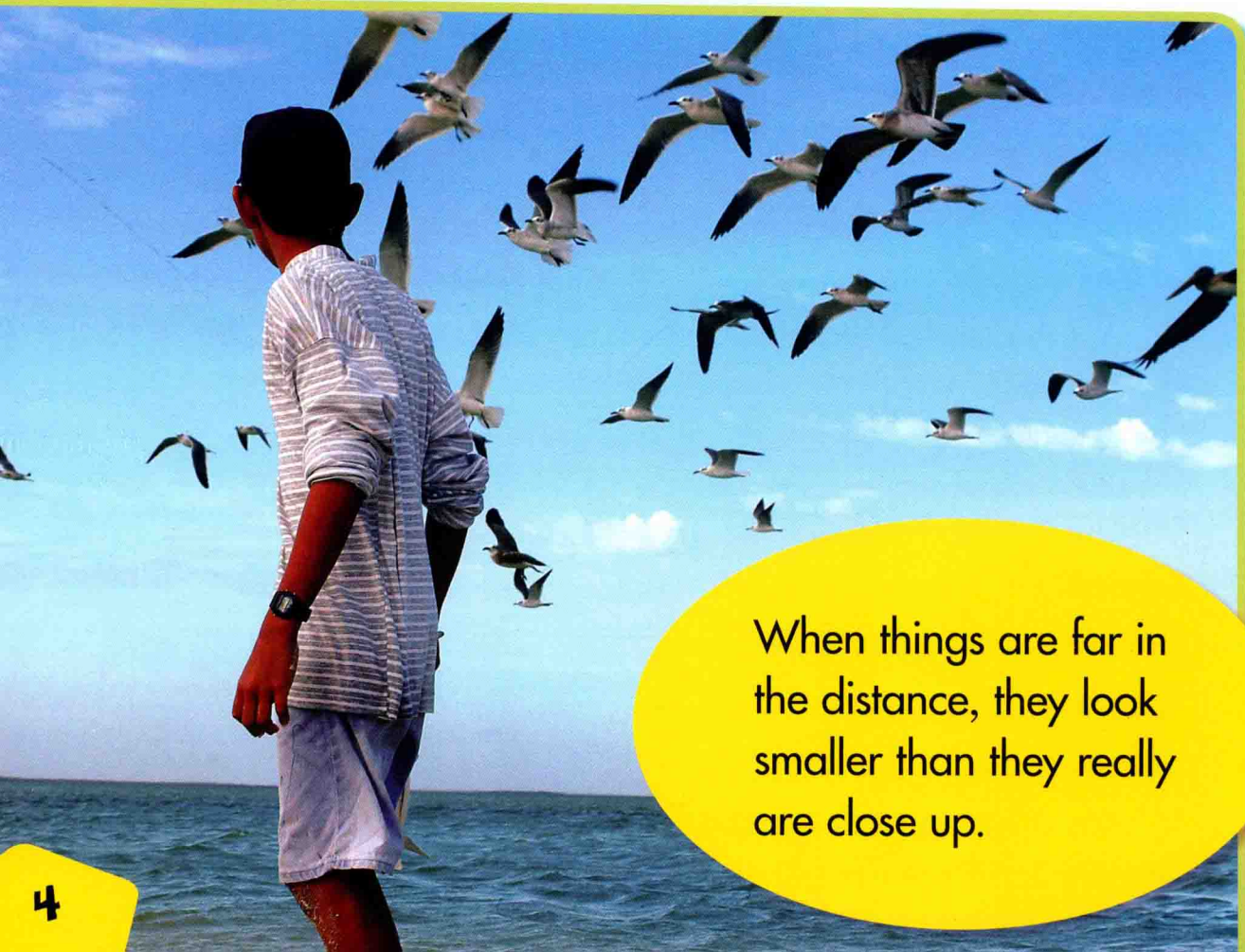
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Measuring distance

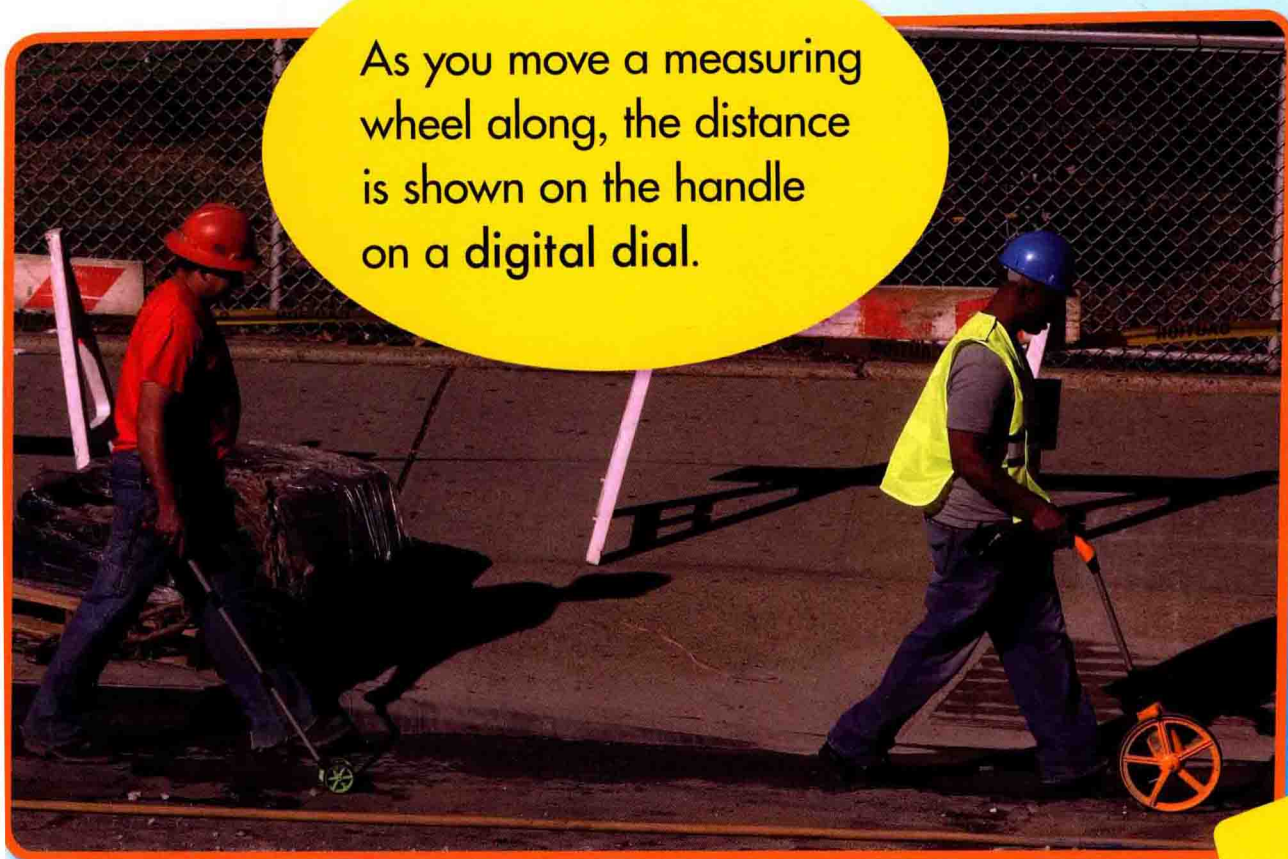
Distance is how far it is from one place or thing to another. If something is near to you, you can reach it quickly. If something is far from you, you have to travel further to get to it.



When things are far in the distance, they look smaller than they really are close up.

We can use a tape measure, measuring stick, or measuring wheel to measure distances. We use centimetres (cm) to measure very short distances. Longer distances are measured in metres (m), and very long distances in kilometres (km) or miles.

As you move a measuring wheel along, the distance is shown on the handle on a digital dial.



Distances on maps

A map is a picture which shows an area shrunk down. A map can show a small area, such as your street. A map can show a larger area, such as a country.

The Earth is a ball shape, but this flat map makes it easy to look at the whole world at once.



On many maps, every centimetre stands for a certain number of metres or kilometres on the ground. So we can measure a distance on the map and work out how far that distance is in real life.

National Zoo

Australian Adventure



0 500 feet
0 150 metres

scale

Birds of Prey



Gator Bayou



Water Friends



Otter Observatory



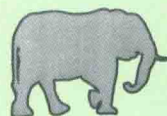
Flamingo Walkway



Penguin Island



African Adventure



Maps have a scale so that you can see how much distance they show.

EXIT



Gift Shop



KEY



Toilets

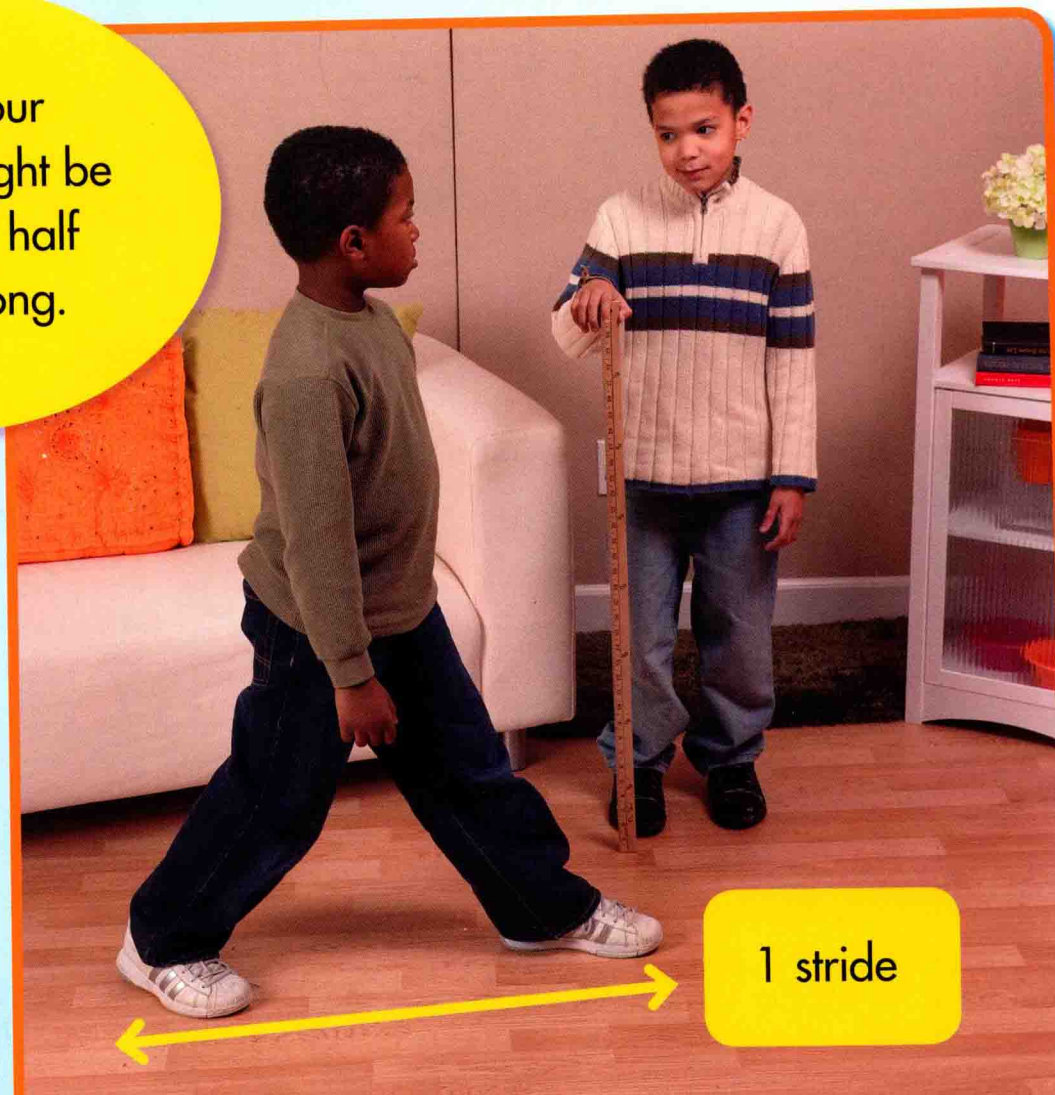


Food & Drink

How far is one stride?

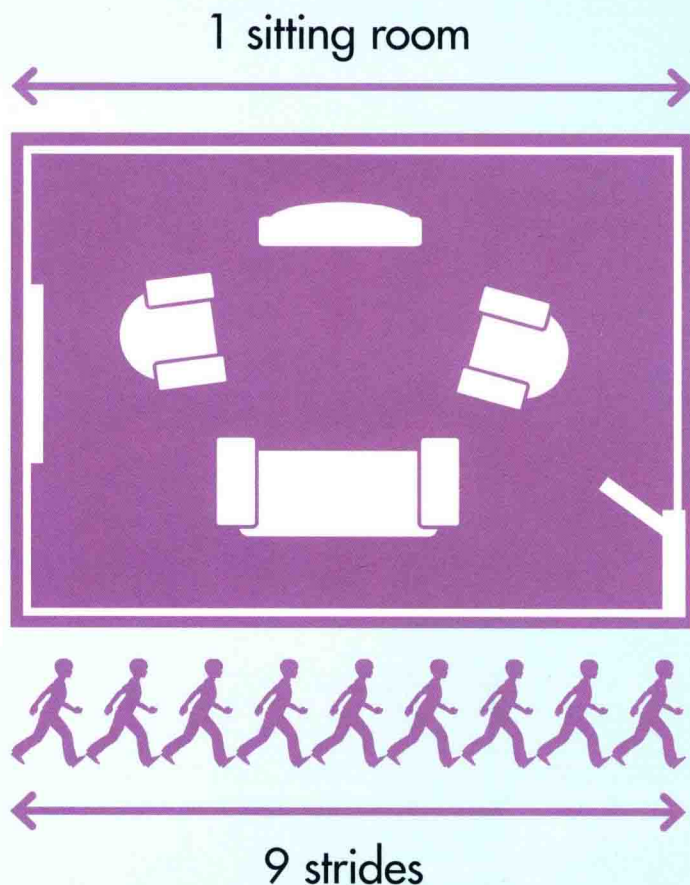
Have you ever measured how far you can go in one stride? Compared to a younger brother or sister, you can go very far. But how far is far?

One of your strides might be a bit over half a metre long.



1 stride

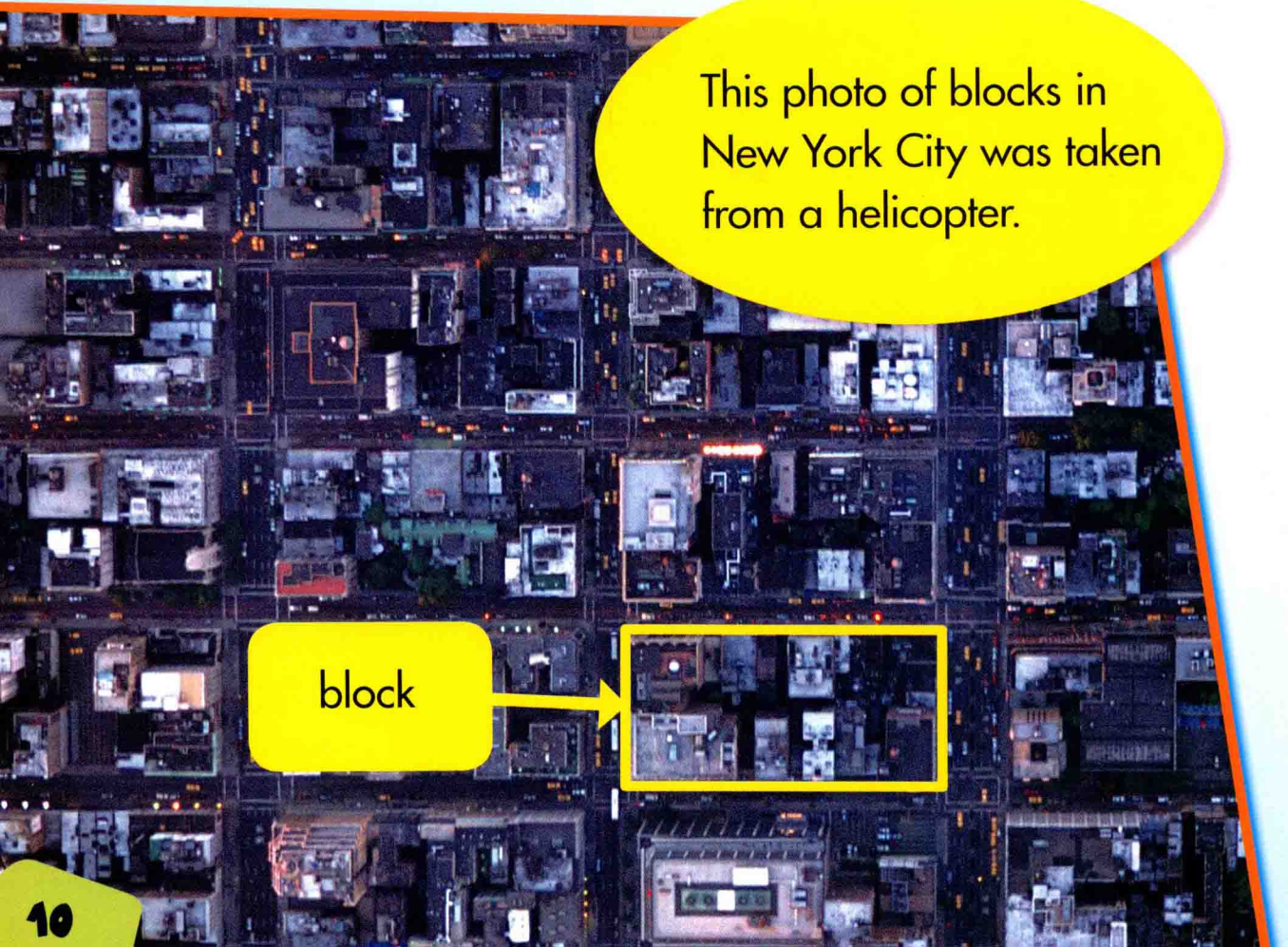
The sitting room in your house might be about 6 metres wide. If you walked from one end of the room to the other, it would take about 9 strides.



What is further than walking
across your sitting room? ➡

Down a street

Streets can be long or short. When you walk down a street, you see other streets coming off from the sides. In the United States, a block is the distance from one side street to the next one.

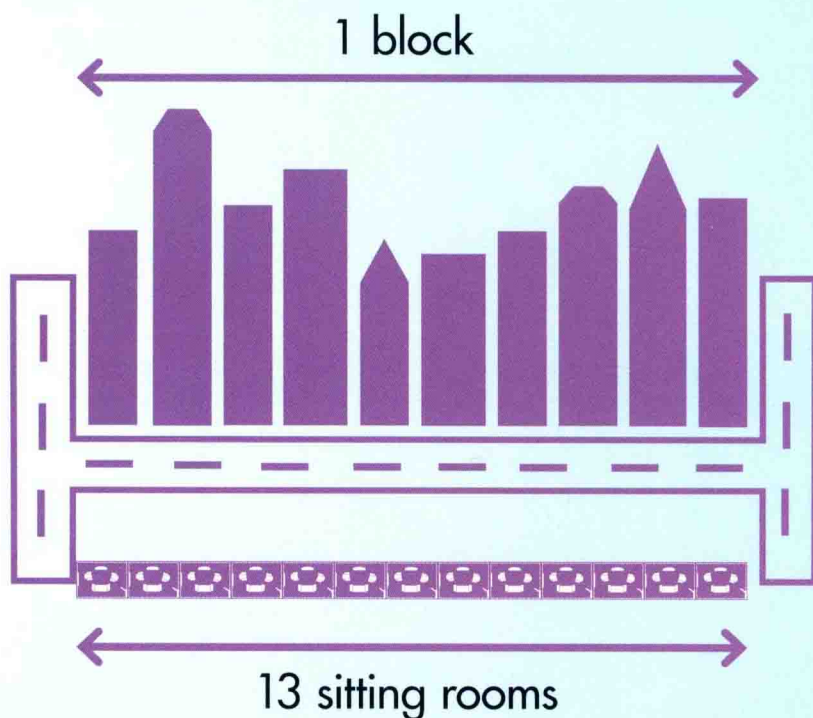
An aerial photograph of a city grid, likely New York City, showing a dense pattern of streets and buildings. A yellow oval callout bubble is positioned on the right side of the image, containing text.

This photo of blocks in New York City was taken from a helicopter.

An aerial photograph of a city grid, likely New York City, showing a dense pattern of streets and buildings. A yellow oval callout bubble is positioned on the right side of the image, containing text. A yellow rectangular box highlights a specific block in the grid, and a yellow arrow points from the word 'block' in the callout bubble to this box.

block

Blocks can be different lengths, but many blocks in New York City are about 80 metres long. This is a little more than 13 sitting rooms laid end to end.



What is further than a walk down a city street? →

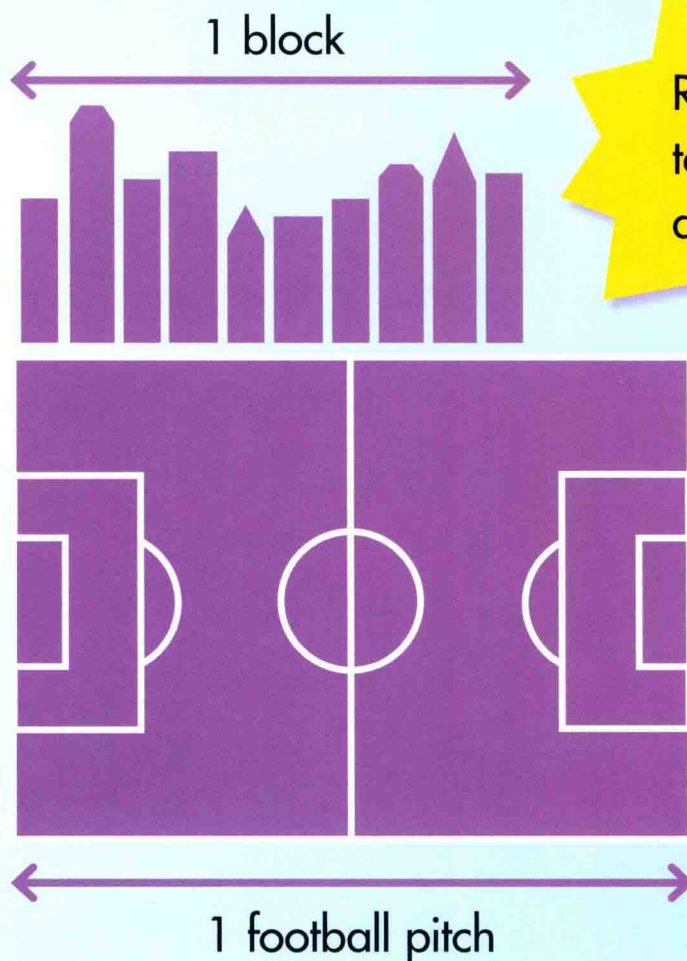
Along a football pitch

One end of a football pitch is far from the other. Football pitches can be different sizes. The pitches used for international matches must all be the same size.

Watching two countries play each other can be very exciting.



An international football pitch is 105 metres long. That is longer than a typical block in New York City.



Remember this
to help with the
quiz on p28.

**What is further than walking
along a football pitch?** ➔