

# Celebrate National Metric Week

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Do you know a Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math (STEM) educator looking for ideas to help celebrate **National Metric Week**, October 10 to 16, 2021? We're here to help!

Metric Week is a fun way for educators to focus on measurement skill development during the first weeks of school. National Metric Week is currently celebrated during the week that includes the tenth day of the tenth month, a play on the "powers of ten." The holiday was established by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) and initially celebrated during the month of May. However, in 1984 Metric Week was moved to October to better compliment the K-12 academic calendar.

## **NIST Outreach Publications**

NIST Public Affairs Office (PAO) has recently issued an updated *SI Measurement Poster* featuring the *Guardians of the SI Superheroes* (Figure 1). The simplified SI base unit definitions correspond to each Superhero and are aimed at an upper elementary school audience. Companion outreach materials are available on the **NIST Education website**.

The *SI Relationships Poster* (SP 1247) illustrates the relationships of the SI derived units with special names and symbols and the seven base units (Figure 2). High school, higher education, and measurement scientists often post this handy guide in classrooms, offices, and laboratories. Hardcopies of both colorful posters can be requested by contacting **TheSI@nist.gov**.

The **NIST Metric Program website** has curated additional educational materials that can be downloaded and freely reproduced. The free **NIST SI Teacher Kit** is also available to U.S. teachers, parents, enrichment programs, and outreach ambassadors.

## **USMA Resources**

The USMA website provides a wealth of information to help promote metric measurements during the holiday, including **general principles for teaching the metric system**. USMA is celebrating STEM educators with a Metric Week give-away. The grand prize includes an annual USMA membership, 100 metric rulers, and liter cube demonstration model. Learn how U.S. teachers can enter the promotion on Instagram (**@USMA\_Metric**).

This year, USMA's *Governor's Proclamation Project* is focused on recognizing Metric Week in every state and territory. Governor proclamations are used by local school districts and others to increase public awareness during Metric Week outreach activities. Is your state represented in this year's campaign? Access proclamation pdfs on 10 October from the **project webpage**.

Whether you're hosting a hands-on activity or daily outreach events this year, let us share in your success! When promoting your event or posting photos afterwards, tag us (**@nist**) on social media with the hashtag **#MetricWeek**.



Figure 1. The SI Measurement System poster. Credit NIST/Hanacek.

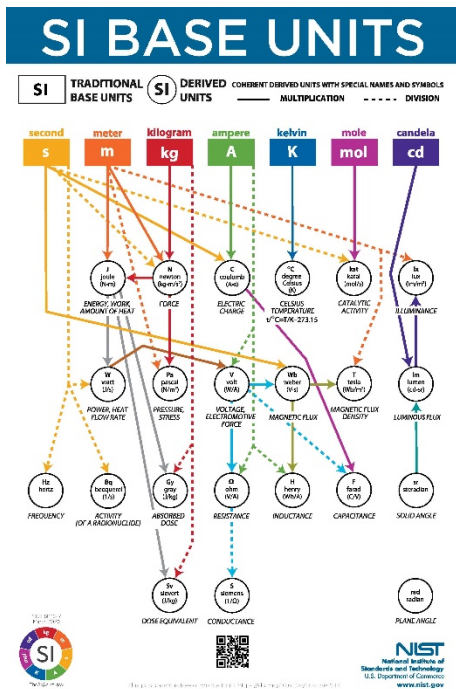


Figure 2. NIST SP 1247, SI Relationship Poster. Credit: NIST.