Glossary

Note: Chuukese words for parts of a house can be found in the glossary at the back of The Little Crooked House. Chuukese length measurement words are defined in resources in the early lessons.

arithmetic pattern – a sequence of numbers where going from one term to the next the same number is added or subtracted.

bisect – to divide (a geometrical figure) into two equal parts

bisector – a straight line or plane that bisects a geometrical figure (usually an angle or a line)

center – the middle point of a line, circle or sphere

centimeter – one hundredth of a meter (centi- means a 100th)

circle – a closed plane curve with every point the same distance from a fixed point, the center

common difference – the number added or subtracted at each stage of an arithmetic sequence

common ratio – the number multiplied or divided at each stage of a geometric sequence

congruent – having identical size and shape

crooked – not straight or level; bent, curved, twisted

cube – a rectangular prism where all six faces are squares

diagonal – a line joining any two vertices of a polygon that are not connected by an edge

divider – an instrument (found in most geometry sets) that looks like a compass but has two metal points and is useful for comparing lengths in geometric drawings

edge – a line along which two faces of a solid meet

equilateral triangle – a triangle having all three sides of equal length

estimate – as a noun, a rough calculation; as a verb, to make an estimate or rough calculation

face – one of the plane (flat) surfaces forming a polyhedron (a 3-D figure bounded by flat surfaces)

false ridgepole – a second ridgepole at the very top of the house frame to which the cover thatch   is attached

foot (pl. feet) – a unit of length in the U.S. customary system. Since 1959, it has been defined as 0.3048 meters (abbreviation is ft, symbol is ')

geometric pattern – a sequence of numbers where going from one term to the next involves multiplying or dividing by the same number

halving – dividing into two equal parts (halves)

hexagon - a closed plane figure with 6 straight sides and 6 vertices; in a regular hexagon, all sides and all angles are congruent

horizontal – parallel to the plane of the horizon (where the earth appears to meet the sky); going side to side like the horizon

inch – (plural: inches, abbreviation: in., symbol: ") is one twelfth of a foot and is now defined as 2.54 cm

isosceles triangle – a triangle having two sides of equal length

king post – (or kingpost) a vertical beam between a horizontal beam, the end beam, and the ridgepole

kite – a quadrilateral with two pairs of equal adjacent sides

measure – as a noun, the size or quantity found by measuring; the degree, extent or amount of a thing ('measurement' is also used); - as a verb, to find the extent or quantity of a thing by comparison with a fixed unit.

meter – (also spelled metre) is the basic unit in the Système International (international system of measure). It used to be defined by the length of a bar of platinum kept in Paris; now it is defined with relation to the speed of light.

pace – the length of a brisk (quick) step and defined as 30 inches in the U.S. system

parallel – two or more lines (or planes) that are always the same distance from each other

parallelogram – a quadrilateral with opposite sides parallel and therefore equal in length

pentagon – a closed plane (2-D) figure with 5 straight sides and 5 vertices

perpendicular bisector – a line which cuts a line segment into two equal parts at 90°

perpendicular lines – lines at right angles to each other

polygon – a closed plane (2-D) figure with 3 or more straight line segment sides and angles

polygonal – (adjective) having a polygon shape

Pythagorean theorem – the square on the hypotenuse of a right triangle is equal to the sum of the squares on the two adjacent sides

quadrilateral – a polygon with 4 sides

rafters – the sloping beams forming the framework of a roof

rectangle – a quadrilateral having four right angles; a parallelogram having four right angles

rectangular prism – a solid figure, or its surface, that has 6 rectangular sides or faces and all interior angles are right angles (examples: a box, a brick)

rhombus (or diamond) – a parallelogram whose four sides are equal

ridgepole – the horizontal pole in a roof used to support the upper ends of the rafters

right angle – the angle between two perpendicular lines; an angle measuring 90 degrees

scale – is a ratio between a unit of measure in a scale drawing and a unit of measure of the real object (expressed in words, as a ratio, or as a fraction)

scale drawing – a drawing that shows a real object with measurements reduced or enlarged by a certain amount (called the scale)

scalene triangle – a triangle having three unequal sides

sequence – an ordered set of objects especially numbers

square – an equilateral rectangle; a rectangle with sides of equal length

straight line - a line lying in the shortest path between any two of its points; never curves

surface area – is a measure of the total area that an object occupies thatch – as a noun, the roof covering made of woven straw, palm leaves, or other similar materials; as a verb, to cover a roof with thatch

trapezoid – a quadrilateral with two parallel sides of unequal length

triangular prism – a solid figure, or its surface, that has 3 rectangular sides and a triangular base with a congruent side opposite it and parallel to it (more precisely, this is a right triangular prism)

vertex (pl. vertices) – a point of intersection of two sides of a polygon

vertical – in an up-down position; upright; perpendicular to the horizontal

volume – is a measure of the amount of space that an object occupies

yard – a unit of measurement in the U.S. customary system, originally defined by the length of a standard metal yardstick and defined in 1959 as 0.9144 meters (abbreviation: yd).