

# Activities to Try

## *Robert Wadlow: The Unique Life of the Boy Who Became the World's Tallest Man*

- ❖ **Measure 8 feet 11.1 inches (or round up to 9 feet) on a floor or wall. Compare your height to Robert's when he was a young adult. (Or measure 6 feet to see his height in the third grade.)**

What else is this tall, deep or long?

- ❖ **Pretend to use a toothpick as a pencil to understand how awkward it became for Robert to write with his large hands.**
- ❖ **Find a too-small desk or chair to sit in for a while (maybe preschool-size furniture).**
- ❖ **Trace an outline of your foot on a large piece of paper. Then trace a larger foot outline around this shape. Make this shape measure 18 1/2 inches long, about 5 inches wide at the heel and almost 6 inches wide at the ball of the foot. This was Robert's shoe size when he was 12.**

Make a paper cutout to use in helping others learn about Robert.

- ❖ **Measure 96 inches. This was the length of Robert's shoelaces.**

How long are your shoelaces?

- ❖ **Use your local library's databases to look up archived newspaper coverage of Robert.**

How do the stories treat Robert? If you were Robert, how would the story make you feel?

- ❖ **Use an encyclopedia or education web site to learn about important events happening around the world while Robert was alive.**

Look up topics such as the Roaring 20s, Great Depression and the growing conflict that would become World War II soon after Robert's death.

- ❖ **Research other extra-tall people from history. Try to find information on people such as Sandy Allen, Yao Defen, Leonid Stadnik, Bao Xishun and Alexander Sizonenko.**

What is the tone of the coverage? Are their situations and lives handled with respect?  
How can you tell if information about their lives and heights seems accurate?