Investigation: Measuring with Radians

- 1. Use the string to measure the radius of circle M.
 - a. Create minor arcs that are the length of the radius and draw them end-to-end on the circumference of the circle. Draw each minor arc using a different color.
 - b. Approximately how many radii does it take to create the circumference of circle M?
- 2. Use the string to measure the radius of circle R
 - a. Create minor arcs that are the length of the radius and draw them end-to-end on the circumference of the circle. Draw each minor arc using a different color.
 - b. Approximately how many radii does it take to create the circumference of circle R?

- 3. Use a ruler to draw and measure radius \overline{MN} in centimeters. a. How long is radius \overline{MN} ?
 - c. Divide the circumference of circle M by the length of radius \overline{MN} .
- 4. Use a ruler to draw and measure radius \overline{RS} in centimeters. a. How long is radius \overline{RS} ?
 - c. Divide the circumference of circle R by the length of radius \overline{RS} .

- b. Calculate the circumference of circle M rounded to the nearest hundredth.
- d. How does your answer compare to your answer in #1b?
- b. Calculate the circumference of circle R rounded to the nearest hundredth.
- d. How does your answer compare to your answer in #2b?
- 5. Write a ratio of the formula for circumference to the radius and simplify (keeping in terms of pi). How does this compare to #3c and #4c?

- M R

Name

A radian is a unit used to measure angles. A central angle with measure 1 radian intercepts an arc with length equal to the radius of the circle.

- 6. Determine the length of each arc in terms of radii using the string.
- 7. Find the central angle in terms of radians.



- 8. Draw central angles for each radius-length minor arc in Problem #1 and Problem #2.
- a. What is the measure of each central angle in radians?
- b. How many radians do you think make up a circle?
- c. Why does this make sense when relating the circumference to the radius?