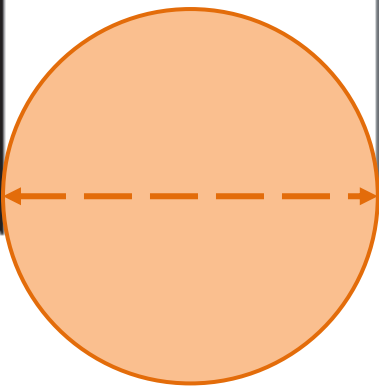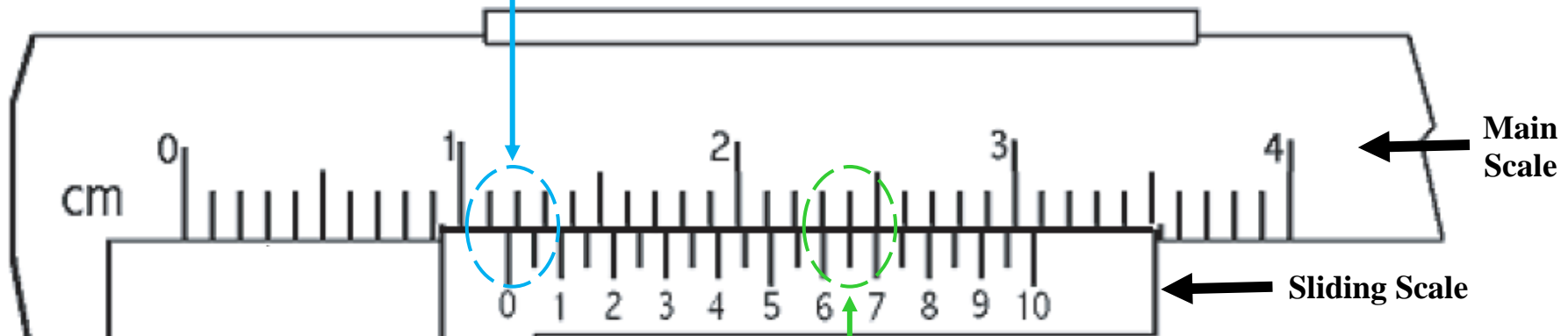# Reading a Vernier Caliper

The **"0" mark** on the sliding scale indicates where to read the main scale.

In the example below, the object measures **1.1_ _ cm**.

Main Scale

Sliding Scale

Be sure that when measuring diameter, you are at the widest point of the object.

Find the location where the main scale marking **lines up most exactly** with the sliding scale marking. This will measure our last 2 decimal places.

If the line on the sliding scale is **numbered**, it will read that number in the hundredths place and 0 in the thousandths place.

If the line is **not numbered**, it will read the number of the line ahead of it in the hundredths place and 5 in the thousandths place.

In the example above, the object measures **1.165 cm**.