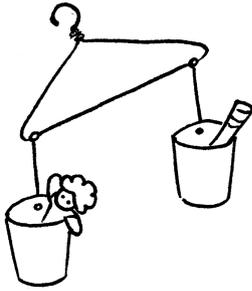


Hanger Scale

Age: Preschool-age (3-4 years)

This activity helps your child's development in this domain: Cognitive

What You Need:



- Plastic hanger
- Two plastic cups
- String
- Variety of small objects to weigh such as fishing weights, seed pods, pebbles, leaves, small balls, or pieces of foam

What To Do:

1. Cut the string into two equal pieces, about six-eight inches long.
2. Tie the two pieces of string to the hanger, one in each corner.
3. Attach a cup on the other end of each piece of string by cutting two small holes in the rim of each cup, pushing the string through the holes, and tying the string.
4. Hang the scale from a hook, door, or window, or your finger.
5. Have your child place different objects in the plastic cups, experimenting to see which objects are heavier, lighter, or of the same weight. Describe how a heavier object will tilt the scale downwards and how the scale will be balanced when two objects are the same weight.
6. Help your child find out how many of a certain object it takes to equal the weight of another heavier one. Have him put one heavy object in one cup and then, one at a time, add several of the other objects to the other cup until the



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scale is balanced. Count the objects as you go.

7. Before weighing two objects, have him look at and hold both objects, one in each hand. Ask him to tell you which object he thinks is heavier and why. Have him use the scale to find out which object is heavier.

! Safety Alert: Remind your child not to put small objects in his mouth. They can get stuck in his throat and cause choking (and even death). When you are done using small objects, put them away, where your child cannot reach them. Childproofing your home creates a safe place for your child to explore and learn.

