Weigh It Up!

Prophet Shoaib (as) taught people to be fair when measuring and weighing things. Let's make our own balance scales and try weighing things fairly, just like honest traders!

What You'll Need:

- A clothes hanger (preferably with notches)
- 2 paper cups (or you can make two weighing containers out of recycled boxes/milk cartons. Just make sure they are exactly the same size and weight!)
- Strings or Yarn
- Hole punch
- Scissors
- Decorating supplies (optional): markers, stickers

Instructions:

Step 1 – Prepare Your Cups
- Use the hole punch to make two holes on opposite sides near the top edge of each cup.
- Make sure the holes are at the same level on each cup.

Step 2 – Attach the Strings
- Cut two pieces of string or yarn of equal length (around 25 cms each).

- Thread each string through the holes in one cup and tie a knot.
- Repeat for the second cup.
- Make sure the strings for both cups are the same length.

Step 3 – Hang the Cups

- Loop the free ends of the strings over the ends or notches of the clothes hanger. Tie a knot at the end of each of the strings to secure the cups to the hanger.
- Hang your scale from a doorknob or hook. Make sure it balances when empty.
- If it doesn't balance, adjust the string length or the cup position.

Now let's weigh like honest merchants!

- Collect some small objects like toys, pebbles, blocks, or coins.
- Place a different object in each cup. Which is heavier? Which is lighter? How can you tell? Try experimenting with different objects.
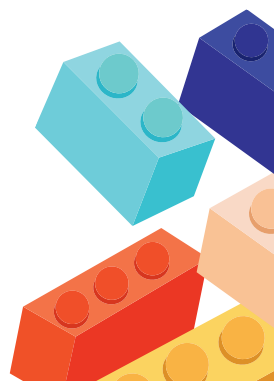
- Put a heavier object in one cup. One by one, add the lighter objects in the other cup until the two cups are hanging roughly at the same level. This means that the weight of the objects in both cups is nearly equal.
- Count how many of the smaller objects it took to balance the single object in the other cup. This gives you a way to compare their weights! For example, you might find that one small toy weighs about the same as three coins.
- Make your own fair trade market game and use your balance to weigh!