

Activity 1 – Measuring using informal units

Find out how much your hand is worth

What to do

Set up the challenge – can we find out how much your hand is worth?

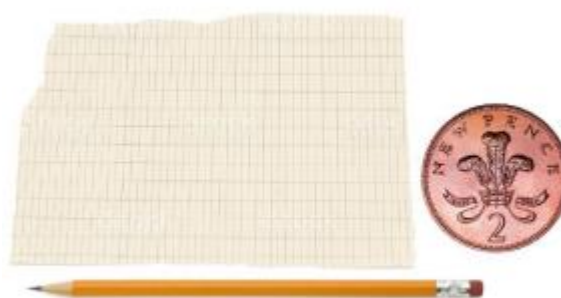
Help your child to draw around their hand and then measure it by placing a coin and drawing around it as many times as it takes to create a line from top to bottom – this will be tricky so give lots of help and encouragement.

How many coins did it take? Count in 2s to reach an amount and help your child to record the number on their hand shape, with a £ or p.

What you need

A coin: 2p or £2 piece (you can choose other coins, but these are easiest to draw around and count)

scrap paper and a pen or pencil



Extension

Find out the worth of each person in the home's hands – create a display of hands with the worth recorded.

Place the hands in order, highest to lowest.

Try with a different coin – 10p and counting in 10s.

Can we do the same with feet?

Questions to ask

How many times did you draw around the coin?

Can we count in 2s?

How much is your hand worth? (in pence or pounds)

Do you think my hand will be worth more or less than your hand? Why?

Whose hand will be worth the most/least?

How can we find out?

Activity 2- Modelling from found and recycled materials

Make a bug hotel

What to do

Explain the task clearly. Insects like to hide in small, dry sheltered places from the weather and predators. This can be gaps in walls, holes in trees, piles of dry leaves. These places are becoming less common so we can help by making a bug hotel. Collect the materials – natural materials can be collected during a walk in the park.

Talk about ways to fill the container to make small nooks and crannies for insects to shelter in. Explore packing the container with the found materials.

Place or hang up your hotel in an outdoor space ready for the first guests to arrive.

What you need

Something to provide the shell of the hotel:

a card tube/kitchen roll insert, cut down

milk carton, card coffee cup or plant pot

Thin twigs, sticks, dry leaves, pinecones,

moss, bark, dead hollow stems

String or thread to suspend the finished hotel from.



Extension

Set a challenge – e.g. can you create spaces of different sizes for different insects? Can you make a hotel that can hang from a tree/fit in the hedge/be waterproof?

Find out what animals might be taking up residence by looking at this link together:

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2019/09/how-to-build-a-bug-hotel/>

Look at larger bug hotels online:

<http://www.wildwestend.london/stories-feed/2017/4/26/insect-hotel>

Questions to ask

How will you stop the parts from falling out?

What will make the hotel waterproof? Where could we put it? What would be a good place?

How can we keep it light enough to sit on our hedge/stop it blowing away?

How can we design it so it will hang on our fence?

Activity 3- Create an animal rescue centre

Use your soft toys as rescued animals

What to do

Set up the role play activity with pens beds for them, placing some animals in pens/ houses, and leaving others in a box or perhaps in a large toy lorry.
Have little bowls for the animals.
Make sure you have some bandages and pretend medicines.
Allow children to explore the activity, before introducing question prompts.

What you need

Soft toys, cushions or folded towels for beds
Bandages perhaps cut out of an old unwanted tea towel, T-shirt or rag
Plasters, pretend medicine and spoon



Extension

Have a register with the names of the animals and a tick list.
Register each animal as it comes in. Be sure to write what is wrong with it.

Questions to ask

Two more lions are arriving today... How many lions will there be altogether?
How many animals will there be altogether?
What is wrong with the bear?