

Comparing length, mass, capacity and duration

compare directly and indirectly and order objects and events using attributes of length, mass, capacity and duration, communicating reasoning

Learning intention

- compare directly and indirectly and order objects and events using attributes of length, mass, capacity and duration, communicating reasoning

Teach and model

- using a piece of string to indirectly compare the length of several objects, deciding which will fit within a space; using comparative language to describe the order: shortest...
- ordering the mass of 3 or more objects such as rocks, using hefting and balance scales; using comparative language to explain the order: lightest, light, heavier, heaviest, and...
- pouring sand/rice/water from one container to another to compare and order the capacity of 3 or more containers; describing the order of the results in terms of which...

Check understanding

- Explain the main idea in comparing length, mass, capacity and duration using an example.
- Show the idea in a second way: with words, a model, a diagram or symbols.
- Apply the idea to a short unfamiliar situation and justify the result.

Teaching cautions

- Ask the student to explain their choice, not only state an answer.
- Check that key vocabulary is understood in a new example.
- Mix representations so the skill is transferred rather than copied.

Quick lesson sequence

- Connect to prior knowledge and introduce the key vocabulary.
- Model one clear example, then solve a second example together.
- Finish with an independent check and a short student explanation.