

# Instructions to make a balance scale.

by Purvis and Mickey Thompson.

## Equipment.

You will need

- 2 plastic containers of equal size  
(we used empty pop bottles, but you could use yogurt pots or even Tupperware)
- String
- Tape measure
- Sellotape
- Scissors
- Screwdriver
- Coat hanger  
(this can be metal, plastic or wood but will work best if it has hooks on either side)



## What to do.

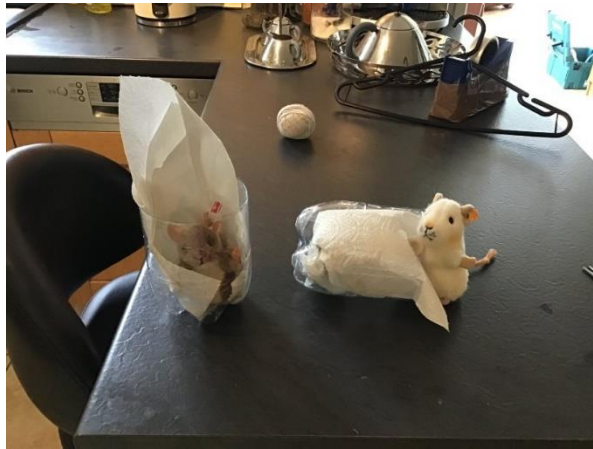
1. First cut the empty bottles off about one third from the bottom. *You may need some help with this bit. Be careful to make neat edges as the plastic can be sharp.*

Purvis is in charge of the scissors as he is the most sensible. I'm not quite sure what Mickey Thompson is doing with the label!



Grownups - depending on your bottle this can be quite tricky as you need sharp scissors. Obviously if you are using yogurt pots skip this stage.

2. Make sure your containers are clean and dry.



Don't get stuck inside the container Mickey T!

3. Next use the measuring skills you learnt last week to measure a 60cm piece of string and cut it off carefully. Repeat so that you have two 60cm pieces of string.



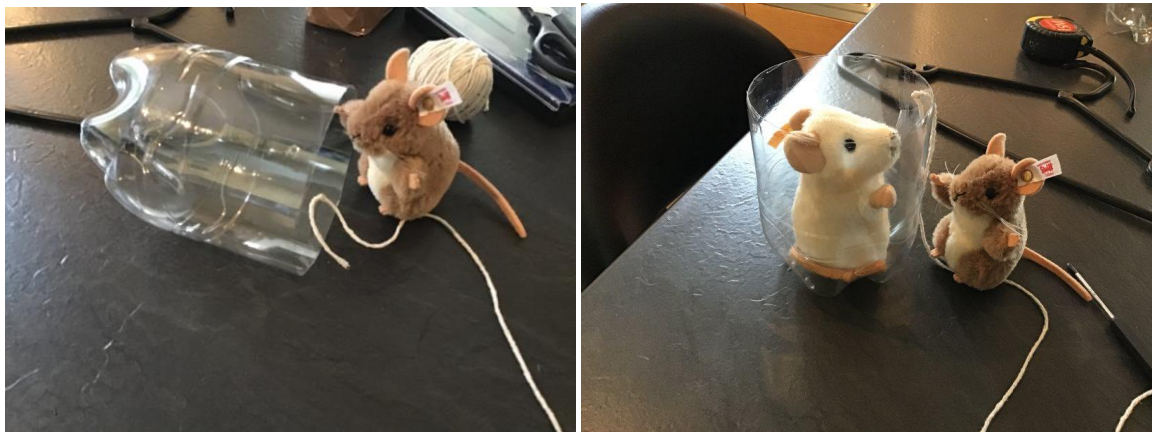
Mickey Thompson is making sure the string starts at 0 on the tape measure.

4. Now we need to make two holes near the top of each container on opposite sides. *You will need your grown up to do this for you.*

Grown ups - I have found the easiest way to do this is to heat the end of a screwdriver and push it through the plastic. You could also use scissors if they have a sharp point.



5. Next push the string carefully through the hole in the container from outside to inside. Knot and tape the string on the inside of the container.



Purvis is very good at tying knots!

Repeat on the other side of your container so it looks like a bucket with a handle. Do the same on the other container.



6. Then hook the string over the coat hanger so one bucket is on each side.



7. Hang your balance on a door handle. You are now ready to weigh things!

