

Talking Capacity



1. Take out several (7 to 10) containers you have at home and ask someone to cover the capacity on their labels before you see them.

E.g. of containers – large/small bottle of water, carton of milk, dish washing liquid bottle, shampoo bottle, soy sauce bottle, vanilla essence bottle, maple syrup bottle etc.

Make sure you have a variation of capacities.

2. Label each bottle with a letter (e.g. A, B, C...).

This will help identify the containers.

3. Keep a paper and a pencil/pen close to record your estimates and/or other working.

<p><u>Estimates</u> Capacities are covered and unknown – make an intelligent guess.</p>
<p>1. Put the containers in ascending order according to their capacities.</p>
<p>2. Which container do you think holds most?</p>
<p>3. Which containers do you think hold around 1 ℓ?</p>
<p>4. Estimate the capacity of each container. Keep a record of your estimates. Do not forget to indicate the unit (ℓ or ml). Discuss with an adult your reasoning.</p>
<p>5. Check your answers by revealing the capacity of each container. How close were you?</p>

Actual Capacities Revealed

6. What is the difference between container B and E?

7. Calculate the total capacity of the 4 smallest containers.

8. Which two containers hold exactly one half the other?

9. Find the mean (average) capacity of the 3 largest containers.

10. Challenge

Using only a 100 *mℓ* container, a 1.5 ℓ container and a 300 *mℓ* container, calculate how many of each do you need to fill up the 10 ℓ bucket?

1.5 ℓ container

300 *mℓ* container

100 *mℓ* container