

Making and Measuring Caterpillars

You could download and print off one of the observation sheets linked with this activity.

Resources

Play dough/plasticine/modelling clay/salt dough

Equipment for measuring caterpillars – e.g. interlocking cubes, counters, balance scales ...

Activity

Let's make caterpillars.

Questions to ask

How long is your caterpillar?

Can you make a longer/shorter one?

Who has made the longest/shortest one?

How heavy is your caterpillar?

Can you make a heavier/lighter one?

Who has made the heaviest/lightest one?

Possible observations

Accurate counting

Use of vocabulary associated with length e.g. longer, shorter, longer/shorter than ...

Understanding of how to compare lengths with other caterpillars and cubes

Use of vocabulary associated with weight e.g. heavy/light, heavier/lighter ...

Follow-up

A caterpillar story e.g. "The Very Hungry Caterpillar"

Build a 'house' for a caterpillar

Find some pictures of real caterpillars

You could measure other objects such as beads on a piece of string, rows of interlocking cubes etc.

Children could stand back to back so that others could see who is the tallest

Acknowledgement

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