

Explain to detectives that one way to form a pattern with objects is to arrange them from largest to smallest and visa-versa.

Divide the class into groups of four. Pass out some **play-dough** to each student. Ask each group to make 4 spherical balls of different sizes. There should be one sphere that is larger than an inch in diameter and one sphere that is smaller than a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter (They should use a ruler to measure.) The other two spheres should be in between the sizes of the small and large ones.

Have students arrange their play-dough balls from smallest to largest. Now have each group come together and try to arrange all of the clay balls from smallest to largest.

If students have difficulty, help them to eyeball the clay balls so they can put them into a rough order from smallest to largest.

MATERIALS:

*Play-dough

