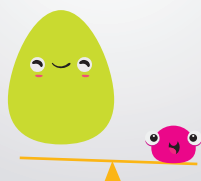




# STATION GUIDE

## Balance It!



Want to learn more about playing math?  
Visit [Zenomath.org](http://Zenomath.org)

### Station Guide Overview

This guide provides information on how to setup and facilitate a small group of 2-7 children or a center station to play the Zeno Game, Balance It. At least one adult should be present when playing.

Some of these instructions assume that children can work cooperatively with one another. If that is not developmentally appropriate for the children you are working with, it may be best to have more adults to serve as the children's partners.

Small group play should last 5-10 minutes and should focus on no more than 2 game levels at a time.

When playing, refrain from using "no" to direct children. The word "no" does not provide children with any skills or verbal guidance.

It is critical that you play the game in your classroom for the week prior to sending it home to ensure that children are excited and comfortable to take it home and play with their families.



### Goal

In this game your child will learn to measure and compare the weight of objects using a balance scale.

### Before You Begin Station Guide

Remember that it is important to give children time to freely play with the game materials and explore the game concept of measurement.

Please ensure that children have had adequate time to explore the game and its concept prior to small groups.



## Level 1 Station Guide



Instructions



Balance Scale x3

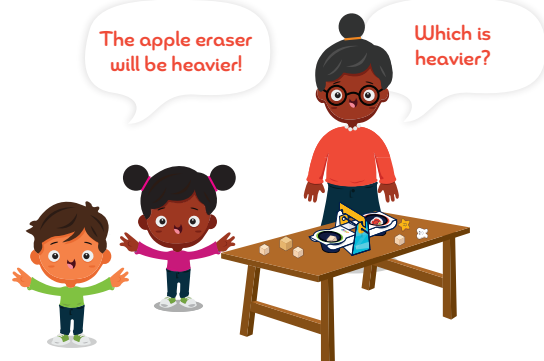


8 Objects  
1 Foam Cube  
3 Rubber Erasers  
4 Wooden Cubes x3

Place a balance scale in the center of your group.  
Ask each child to pick 2 objects from the set of objects.



Ask each child to predict which object will be heavier.  
Give each child a turn to use the scale to see if their prediction was correct. Allow them to try again with 2 new objects.



If children are ready for more of a challenge, allow them to work in pairs and give each pair their own balance scale. See if they can find the heaviest object.

## Level 2 Station Guide



Instructions



Balance Scale x3

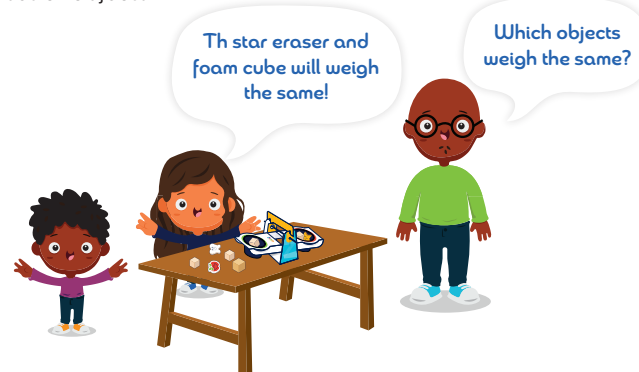


8 Objects  
1 Foam Cube  
3 Rubber Erasers  
4 Wooden Cubes x3

Place a balance scale in the center of your group.  
Ask each child to pick 3 objects from the set of objects.



Ask each child to predict whether they think any objects weight the same amount. Give each child a turn to use the scale to weigh their objects and place them in order from lightest to heaviest. Allow them to try again with a different set of objects.



If children are ready for more of a challenge, allow them to work in pairs and give each pair their own balance scale. See if they can order 3 objects from lightest to heaviest.

## Level 3 Station Guide



Instructions



Balance Scale x3



8 Objects  
1 Foam Cube  
3 Rubber Erasers  
4 Wooden Cubes x3

Place a balance scale in the center of your group.  
Ask each child to pick 1 object (not wooden cubes) from the set of objects.



Ask each child to estimate how many wooden cubes their object weighs. Give each child a turn to use the scale to weigh their object. Allow them to try again with a different object.



If children are ready for more of a challenge, allow them to work in pairs and give each pair their own balance scale. See if they can measure the weight of each object using the wooden cubes. Help them to record their findings and then order the objects from heaviest to lightest.