

Children's

MUSEUM

of Houston

Scoops

Estimate how many scoops it takes to fill a jar.

What to do

What you need

- Paper
- Pasta
- Different size measuring cups
- Pencil
- Jars or other transparent containers

1

Guess how many noodles you can scoop with the scoop. (Write down your estimate so you can remember it.)

2

Scoop up some pasta and count how many you scooped.

3

Choose one of the empty jars and estimate how many scoops of pasta would fit into the jar. Write down your estimate.

4

Fill the jar and count how many scoops it takes to fill the jar. Write this down.

5

Compare your estimate to the answer.

6

Continue with other jars. Write "L" next to the estimates that were too low and "H" next to the estimates that were too high.

For Parents

Estimation is a math skill that we use not only in math class but every day in life. When your child first learns to estimate, they might say there are a thousand or even a million things. These really big numbers are hard to get a handle on, but over time, with practice, estimates will become more realistic and children will develop a better understanding of really big numbers.

