

Measuring Up

PreK

Materials:

- Sets of plastic food or color blocks.

Discussion on the rug:

The teacher asks the class, **“Who knows the story of ‘Stone Soup’?”**

The teacher invites a student to tell about the story, or she reads the story to the class.

The teacher says to the class, **“Suppose we wanted to fix stone soup for two people. Let’s think about how many vegetables we will need.”**

The teacher invites students to share their ideas. The teacher asks the class, **“How many carrots would we need?”**

Students share their answers and explain how they know.

The teacher says, **“How many green onions and chunks of meat would we need?”** Students share their ideas.

Students may act it out, using some toy plastic food or color blocks to show the ingredient amounts. The teacher repeats the discussion and reasoning to make stone soup for three people.

In small groups:

- Students have counters available.

The teacher says, **“If you want to make stone soup for 10 people, how many carrots, green onions, and chunks of meat do you need?”**

Students work together to find a solution. After the students are finished, the teacher asks students to share their answers and method of calculation.

At the end of the investigation:

Students either discuss or dictate a response to this summary question: **“Explain and show how you know how many of each of the vegetables you need to make soup for 10 people.”**

