



Which Takes Longer?

Purpose

To explore time as the duration of an event from its beginning to its end. Students make comparisons of events that have different durations. The attribute being measured is time.

Materials

10 blocks that can be stacked
Paper
Pencil
15 Unifix or snap cubes
Sand timer or stop watch

Activity

1. Students work in pairs.
2. Have a list of activities on the board. Choose any simple activity that works for your classroom. Each pair of students will choose two of the activities.

Some activity suggestions are:

- Stacking 10 blocks one at a time and then removing them one at a time.
- Printing your name.
- Walking slowly around a designated path.
- Making a bar of 15 Unifix or snap cubes.
- Copying a simple drawing such as a house.
- Sharpening an unsharpened pencil.

3. In pairs have one student do one activity, and the other student times the activity.
4. Then reverse the roles.
5. Students can think of activities that they would like to time.

Extension:

Have two different spinning tops. Spin them and time how long each spins.