

1

Fill and count, then compare

Pairs pick one scoop and keep it for the whole session. They fill a container to the top, counting the scoops as they go, write the number down beside the container's name, then do a second container and compare the two numbers.

"How many scoops did it take? Keep count as you go."

"Which number is bigger? Which container holds more?"

2

Order three containers

Give each group a mug, a drink bottle and a short wide bowl and ask them to line the three up from the one that holds the least to the one that holds the most, either by counting scoops or by pouring one into another.

"Which of these holds the least? How did you find out?"

"Did you count scoops or pour? Would the other way give you the same answer?"

3

The tall jar and the wide bowl

Give pairs a tall thin jar, a short wide bowl and a tray, ask for a prediction, then have them fill the jar to the top and pour it into the bowl.

"Which one do you think holds more? Say why before you pour."

"What did the pour show you? Was your prediction right?"

4

Two scoops, one bowl

Hand one student in each pair a small scoop and the other a large one without telling them the scoops are different sizes, and ask them both to fill the same bowl and count. The two numbers come out different and the bowl never changed.

"You both filled the same bowl, but got different numbers. How can that be?"

"Which of your two numbers tells us about the bowl?"