

## How to balance the see-saw (Primary)

**Read it -- Try it safely -- Explore it further**

Two children sitting at each end of a see-saw can keep it balanced horizontally if they are equal in weight.

However, if an adult whose weight is twice that of a child, takes the place of one child, it is not so easy for the see-saw to balance.



Should the adult move closer to the centre, or should the child move closer?

If the beam is 4 meters long and the child sits at one end, how far from the centre should the adult sit?

If the child then moves to sit 1 meter from the centre, where should the adult sit?

### **Extension activity**

If a 10kg box were placed a half meter from one end of the see-saw, where should a 30kg box be placed so as to balance the see-saw?