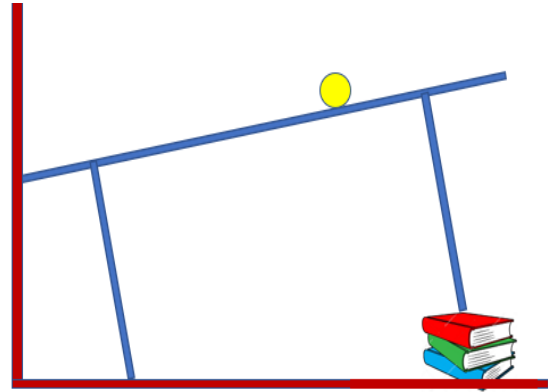# Rolling jars of sugar (PRIMARY)

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

Which jar of sugar will be the last to get to the bottom of the ramp?

Four identical jars each contain a different amount of sugar as shown.
The children are asked:
"if all the jars roll down a ramp together, which jar will get to the bottom last?"
Teacher needs to place a table against a wall and place some books under a
table-leg to produce a ramp of gentle slope.
Safety: Use a cushion to avoid the glass jars breaking.

Extension activity

Repeat for a variety of different gentle slopes
Look at what is happening to the sugar as the jars roll.
Can you explain why they travel at different speeds?

Work with fractions $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3} = \frac{2}{3}$ *and* $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{2}{3} = \frac{3}{3} = 1$ 0 = empty   1 = full