Term 4, Week 2: Maths, measuring length / weight.

This week your activities are all about measuring things - weight and length. There are so many situations in daily life that will help with this so hopefully your child will feel happy to get involved! Please do practise the number formation from last week whenever possible as this will really help boost their confidence.

What are we learning?	Questions to ask your child	What will we need?	Helpful hints
 To describe objects in terms of their length: long, longer, short, shorter, longer than, shorter than, longest, shortest 	 Is this long or short? Is this heavy or light? Which is longer / shorter? Which is heavier / lighter? 	 Household items Cooking items Food Clothes: trousers, socks, scarves, belts, ties, shoes 	Short burst learning if it's a struggle:
.5.19557, 5.161 7551	Which is heaver, highler.	364, 765, 56115, 1165, 511665	Challenge for those who need
 To describe objects in terms of their weight: heavy, heavier, heaviest, heavier than, light, lighter, lightest, lighter than 	 Can you find the longest / shortest? Can you find the heaviest / lightest? 		it:
	 Can you put them in order, starting with the longest / 		
To compare objects	shortest?Can you put them in order,		
 To order objects in terms of their length or weight. 	starting with the heaviest / lightest?		

Activities to try:

Weight: cooking

- Follow simple recipes for cakes, biscuits, scones. Involve your child in the weighing process and talk about 'heavy' and 'light' as much as possible.
- Involve your child in everyday processes at mealtimes. Talk about heavy and light when cooking, getting things out of the cupboard, collecting plates / pots / pans etc

Weight: tin can weight lifting

- Collect as many tins as you have in your kitchen cupboards. This activity can be done with any set of items if you don't have many.
- Together, lift items, one in each hand to compare. Ask your child to say which is heaviest or lightest.
- When you have done this to all of the items, can you put them in order, starting with the heaviest and working up to the lightest?

Weight: heavy hunt

- This activity can be done on it's own, or can be brought into your everyday routine.
- Go into each room in the house.
 Whilst you're in there, ask your child
 to look around and name the things
 they think might be the 'heaviest in
 the room' then compare this to what
 they think is the 'lightest thing in the
 room'
- Extend this to what might be the heaviest item in the house and then what is the lightest item in the house.

Length: who's got the longest / shortest...

An investigation around the house:

- Who has the longest socks? Get a selection out of the drawers to line up and compare.
- Try this with trousers, belts, scarves, ties and shoes.
- Group things as long or short /
- Put things in order, according to their length.

Length: draw the short straw

- Use a packet of paper straws or even use spaghetti. Before you play, cut a handful of straws / spaghetti into different lengths.
- Hold them like a bunch of flowers, making sure they look fairly even at the top.
- Get your child to pull them out, one at a time, ask them to tell you if it is long, short or medium. Once they have a few on the table, can they line them up in order, according to their length?

Length: measuring with hand spans

Show your child how to spread the fingers out, on one hand and tell them that this is a 'hand span.'

- Together, use your hand span to measure items of furniture such as tables, beds, mats, asking: how many hand spans is your bed? Etc.
- Can they write the number of hand spans onto pieces of paper, to record how long things are?