

BUFFALO PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Department Of Science Education  
333 Clinton Street  
Buffalo NY 14204

**BPS**  
**TEAM**  
**Science**

FIRSTHAND LEARNING, INC  
Science Materials Center  
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Buffalo, NY 14214

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Dear Teacher,

Here is a take home activity that was developed to enhance this **Balancing and Weighing Kit**.

The main objective is to get parents involved and help them understand what their children are doing in science. These activities are options but highly suggested. We hope you will find them useful.

Please require the children to complete the Family Journal Page in their science journals. You can decide whether to send only the Family Journal Page home or the science journal with it. Allow the students to help assemble their own take home items.

Please return all of the unused non-consumable take-home materials in the Balancing & Weighing Kit.

## **Family Pictures Mobile Materials List:**

1. 30 sheets of colored construction paper
2. 1 ball of string
3. 90 straws
4. Family Journal Page and parent letter

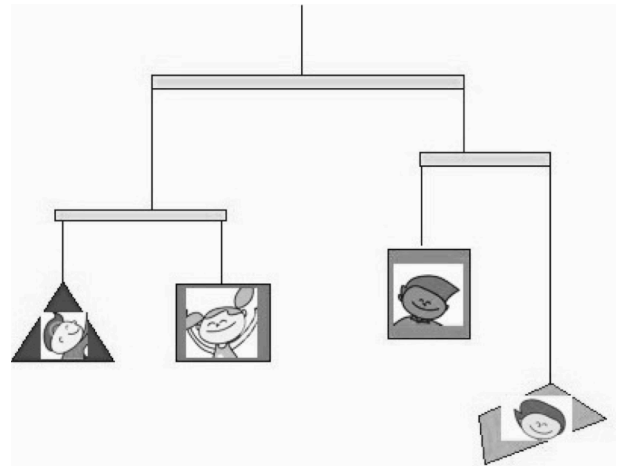
Dear Parents,

We are working on Balancing and Weighing in our classroom. Here is a take home activity for you to work on with your child. Have fun with your child and let him/her show you what he/she has learned. Please make sure your child completes and returns the science journal page and unused materials.

Thank you.

## **Take Home Activity** **Family Picture Mobile**

1. Gather pictures of your family.  
These can be either snap-shots or drawings.
2. Attach each picture of a family member to a small piece of colored paper.
3. Tape a string to each picture using string and straws.
4. Make a balanced mobile.  
See example diagram for ideas.
5. Draw your mobile on your journal page.
  - If you don't have tape or glue at home, try homemade paste made from flour and water mixed to a sticky consistency.
6. The fulcrum (string) is the point upon which the beam (straw) balances or pivots. Please encourage your child to identify both fulcrum and beam on the Family Journal Page.



# Family Journal Page Family Picture Mobile

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Draw a picture of your mobile.

Identify which part of the mobile is a **FULCRUM**, which part is a **BEAM**.

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Why do you think it balances?

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