# Balancing One at a Time

#### You will need:

- Several pairs of identical objects: For example identical paper clips, identical toy animals, identical spoons, etc. If using this activity with children three years or younger, please make sure the objects do not pose a choking hazard.
- A homemade scale or a pan balance scale

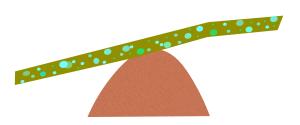
#### What to Do:

Encourage children to play with the scale and investigate its function. Ask them where they have seen a scale before - for example in the grocery store or at the doctor's office.

### **Investigate and Record your Observations:**

- The scale should balance when empty. (0 = 0).
- What happens when you put a paper clip on one side of the scale? Then what happens when you put another paper clip on the other side?
- What happens when there are 3 paper clips on one side and 1 on the other?
  How many paper clips will you need to add to balance the scale?
- What happens when there are 10 paper clips on one side and 3 on the other? Does the scale balance? What do you need to do to balance the scale?





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Record your observations here by drawing a picture of your results.

