

# WORKSHOP EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Built by The Home Depot Kids Workshop

## January 2022: Toss Game

Ages 5-12

### CONNECT.

At first glance, a toss game may seem easy, but a lot depends on how far away you choose to stand! How far away do you think you could stand and still make a successful throw?

### INVESTIGATE.

Test your skills to see how far away you can be and still toss the game piece into the hole you are aiming for.

#### You'll need:

- Your Toss Game
  - Masking tape
  - Ruler
  - Markers of various colors
1. For your first toss, use the ruler to measure a starting point that is two feet away from your Toss Game. Mark the spot with a strip of masking tape.
  2. Try to throw the game piece into one of the holes from this distance. Repeat five times in a row.
  3. Once you've completed five tosses, use the marker to record your number of successful throws on the masking tape.
  4. Then move away from the board one foot further, mark your new throwing point with another strip of masking tape, and begin again.
  5. Continue until you are at least seven feet away from the game or until you have zero or one successful throw out of five!
  6. **Challenge:** Before moving on to the next section, move back to a point where you don't think it would be possible to make a successful toss. Mark the spot with your masking tape, measure the distance, and then give it a try!
  7. **Reflect:**
    - Why were certain distances more successful than others?
    - What characteristics make the game piece easy to throw? What characteristics make it difficult? Think about its size, weight, shape, etc.
    - What may be easier to throw than these game pieces? Why?

**Tip:** Choose one hole and try to get the game piece into the same hole each time!

### OPTIMIZE.

1. Now experiment to see if tossing different types of objects changes how many times you make a successful toss. You'll need at least two different kinds of new game pieces.

A few ideas to consider include:

- Coins
  - Cotton balls
  - Marbles
  - Small bouncy balls
2. Make a quick hypothesis about how each new game piece will perform. Then start your trials. Record your results on the existing pieces of masking tape in a different color than you used before.
  3. Once you have tossed your new game pieces from each throwing point, review your results, and consider:
    - Which item had the highest number of successful throws? Why do you think this was the case?
    - Was one object tossed more successfully from shorter distances?
    - Was one object tossed more successfully from longer distances?
    - If you were to recommend only one object to use as a game piece with this Toss Game, which would it be and why?



How good is your aim? Hand-eye coordination is an important skill that allows you to use your hands and eyes at the same time to complete a task, like tossing the bag into the correct hole. It is also extremely important to workers in the trades, like woodworkers, electricians, plumbers, and painters.

