

# WORKSHOP EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Built by The Home Depot Kids Workshops

## March 2025: Basketball Game

Ages 5-12

### CONNECT.

Think about all the different kinds of balls that you have played with. Which one was the biggest? Which was the smallest? Can you remember which was the heaviest?

Ping pong balls are some of the lightest balls used for team sports; bowling balls are some of the heaviest. Certain kinds of balls are best for different sports and activities.

### INVESTIGATE.

See if different balls launch differently in your Basketball Game!

#### You'll need:

- Your Basketball Game
- Paper
- Foam board
- Museum Putty, Arte Epoxy Clay Mold, or modeling clay molded into balls of various sizes
- Other small balls, or household materials that could be used to create balls
- Scissors
- Tape

- Use the materials you gathered to create four different kinds of balls. For example, you could crumple up the piece of paper or cut a circular shape out of the foam board. Be creative, but remember that each ball needs to fit on the launcher *and* through the Basketball Game's hoop!
- Next, line up your balls according to weight. Be sure to include the original ball from your Basketball Game, too. Use a scale if you have one, otherwise, do your best to gauge which balls are heavier and which are lighter, and line them up in order. Then draw a picture of them or write a description of each ball in the first column below.

	Ball	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3
Lightest → ↓ Heaviest				

- Now it is time to test the balls! Place your first ball in the launcher and launch it three separate times. Each time, note in the chart how it performed. Did it make a basket? Did it fly too high? Did it fall short? Repeat for each ball.

- Finally, review your results. Which ball or balls performed best? If more than one ball scored a basket, did these balls have a similar size or weight? How are the balls that did well different from the balls that did not do well?

### INNOVATE.

#### You'll need:

- Your best Basketball Game balls
- Paint and a paintbrush

It is always good to have a few backup balls when you play a sport. Even the pros have some on hand in case the game ball needs to be replaced during play.

Select the two balls that performed best during your trials. Are there any small tweaks or changes you could make to help them perform even better?

Once you have made these changes, think about how to make your balls stand out as they are played on the court. Use the paintbrush and paints to decorate them with your favorite colors and patterns so that each ball is unique. Be sure to wait for the paint to dry before you start to play!

Share a photo of your Basketball Game, complete with your two game balls, using #kidsworkshopexplore.



How many materials did you use to make the balls for your basketball kit? Just like you, **Construction Workers and Remodelers** use many different materials to build and improve our communities. They work hard to keep roads and sidewalks smoothly paved, lay a secure foundation for buildings, and remove hazardous debris.

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