

**Disclaimer: Activities with children must always be risk assessed, including for allergies or choking. Children must always have adequate supervision. Resources and materials must always be appropriate for children's age and stage of development.**

## Activity: Which Wellies?

**Support children to develop mathematical language and compare different sized objects in this fun 'Which Wellies?' activity.**

### Learning aims

- Mathematical language
- Comparison of different sized objects
- Talk about shape, pattern and colour
- Sort objects by size.

### Resources

- Range of wellies in different sizes
- Basket or box for the wellies
- Pairs of items e.g. gloves, socks
- A pair of baby shoes
- Tape measure or string.



### Activity outline

1. Put all your wellies into a basket so they are mixed up
2. Introduce the basket of wellies to the children and encourage them to share their experiences of wellies e.g. do they own a pair of wellies? When do they wear wellies? What are wellies good for?
3. Discuss the concept of 'pairs' and ask children about other 'pairs' they may be aware of e.g. gloves, mittens, washing up gloves (have examples of pairs for children to see)
4. Tip out the wellies from the box and encourage children to search for the pairs of wellies - this may be by colour, pattern or by the size of the wellies
5. Ask children to sort the wellies by size, putting them into groups of 'small' 'medium' and 'large' wellies. Introduce comparative mathematical language, such as big/small/medium, long, wide, narrow, compare, measure, biggest, smallest, etc.

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6. Ask children which wellies might be suitable for an adult and which wellies might fit their own feet. How do they know which ones will fit? Some children may guess, some may hold them up against their own feet to compare/measure and some may try them on. Encourage children to talk about their experiences of having their feet measured in shops
7. Show the children a pair of baby shoes and discuss how our feet grow longer and wider as they grow older
8. Introduce the tape measure or string and invite children to measure their own, or each other's feet. Who has the biggest/smallest/longest feet? Who has the widest or narrowest feet?

## Extension ideas

- Leave the tape measuring equipment in a basket for children to access during their play
- Reinforce mathematical language in play activities.

## Special considerations

- Activities with children must always be risk assessed, including for allergies or choking. Children must always have adequate supervision. Resources and materials must always be appropriate for children's age, and stage of development
- Complete a risk assessment before using sharp utensils and ovens
- Check the dietary requirements of each child
- Be aware of using appropriate table cleaning products with children.

## NDNA products to support you with this activity:

- [Maths Champions](#)
- [Making maths matter](#) – online course