

# Engaging Ideas for Teaching Capacity

Created by: The Curriculum Corner

# Exploring Capacity



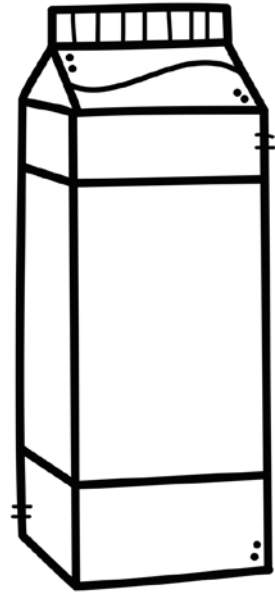
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Understanding Capacity

What do you think you know about capacity?

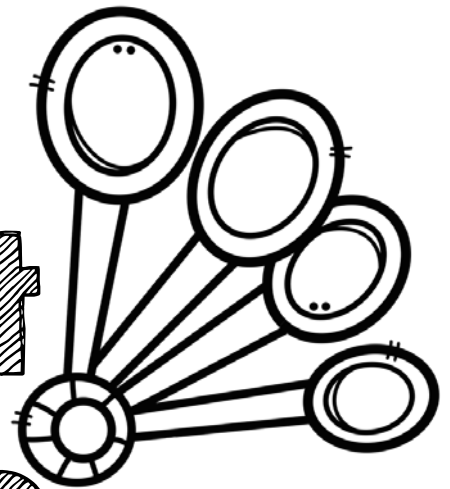
Can you name some tools that can be used to measure capacity?

Can you name units used to measure capacity?

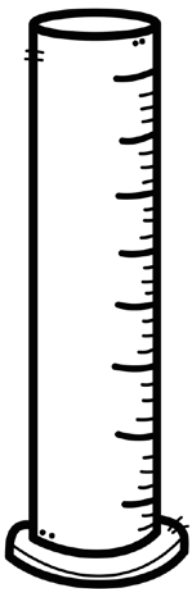


The  
capacity

of an  
object  
tells us

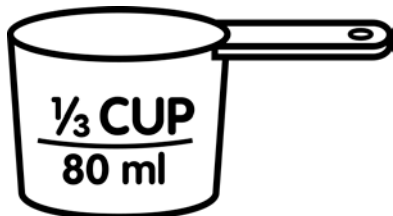


how much  
it can hold.



# Comparing Tools

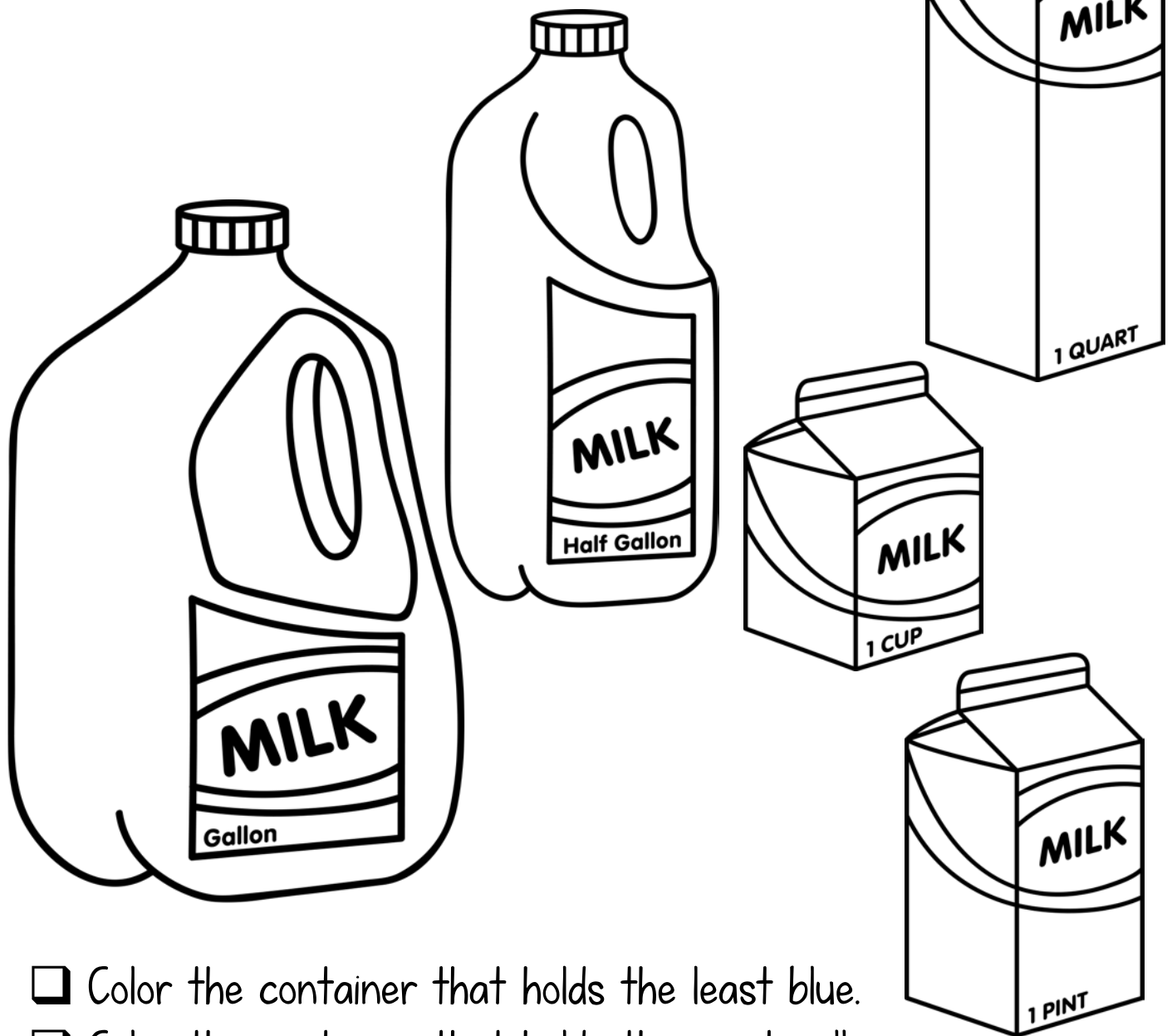
Directions: Use the tools to help you answer the questions.



- Color the tool that holds the most red.
- Color the tool that holds the least yellow.
- You can fill one tool four times to make one cup. Color this tool blue.
- You can fill one tool three times to make one cup. Color this tool green.
- You have one tool left. Color it orange. How many times do you need to fill this tool to make one cup? \_\_\_\_

# Comparing Tools

Directions: Use the tools to help you answer the questions.



- Color the container that holds the least blue.
- Color the container that holds the most yellow.
- You can fill this container twice to make one pint. Color it red.
- This container holds four cups. Color it orange.
- Fill this container twice to equal the amount in the yellow container. Color it green.

# My Cup Runneth Over

Directions: As you explore, record your observations.

There are \_\_\_  $\frac{1}{4}$  cups in 1 cup.

There are \_\_\_  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups in 1 cup.

There are \_\_\_  $\frac{1}{3}$  cups in 1 cup.

There are \_\_\_  $\frac{1}{4}$  cups in 2 cups.

There are \_\_\_  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups in 3 cups.

Think about it...

What did you notice about most of your measurements?

What are some things you might use measuring cups to measure when you are cooking at home?

# Just a Spoonful of...

Directions: As you explore, record your observations.

There are \_\_\_ teaspoons in a tablespoon.

There are \_\_\_ teaspoons in 3 tablespoons.

There are \_\_\_  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoons in a teaspoon.

There are \_\_\_  $\frac{1}{2}$  tablespoons in a tablespoon.

Think about it...

What did you notice about most of your measurements?

What are some things you might use measuring spoons to measure when you are cooking at home?



# Mix it Up!

**Directions:** Follow the directions to make your drink.  
Remember to follow these rules!

1. Read the directions carefully.
2. Measure and pour carefully.
3. Share with your group members.
  4. Be polite.
  5. Take turns stirring.
6. Ask an adult to help you pour.

# Trail Mix

$\frac{1}{4}$  cup M&Ms

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup Cheerios

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup Chex

$\frac{1}{4}$  cup mini marshmallows

$\frac{2}{3}$  cup popcorn

**Directions:** Follow the directions to make your snack.

Remember to follow these rules!

1. Read the directions carefully.
2. Measure and pour carefully.
3. Be polite.
4. Take turns using the supplies.

# Popped vs. Unpopped

Measure  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of popcorn kernels. What do you predict will happen when the popcorn is popped?

With an adult's help, pop the popcorn!

## OBSERVATIONS

We found that  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of unpopped popcorn kernels made \_\_\_\_\_ cups of popped popcorn.

Did all of the kernels pop?

How would your measurements be different if all of the kernels had popped? Why?

What do you predict would happen to the amount of popped popcorn if you had started with  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of unpopped kernels?

l

gallon

quart

quart

quart

quart

pint

pint

pint

pint

pint

pint

pint

pint

CUP

CUP

CUP

CUP

CUP

CUP

CUP

CUP

CUP

CUP

CUP

CUP

CUP

CUP

CUP

CUP

# Capacity Capers

Directions: As you explore, record your observations.

Is a pint or a quart bigger? \_\_\_\_\_

Is a cup or a pint bigger? \_\_\_\_\_

How many cups fit in one pint? \_\_\_\_\_

How many cups fit in one quart? \_\_\_\_\_

How many cups fit in one gallon? \_\_\_\_\_

How many pints fit in one quart? \_\_\_\_\_

How many pints fit in one gallon? \_\_\_\_\_

How many quarts fit in one gallon? \_\_\_\_\_

How many cups fit in two pints? \_\_\_\_\_

How many cups fit in two gallons? \_\_\_\_\_

How many pints fit in two gallons? \_\_\_\_\_

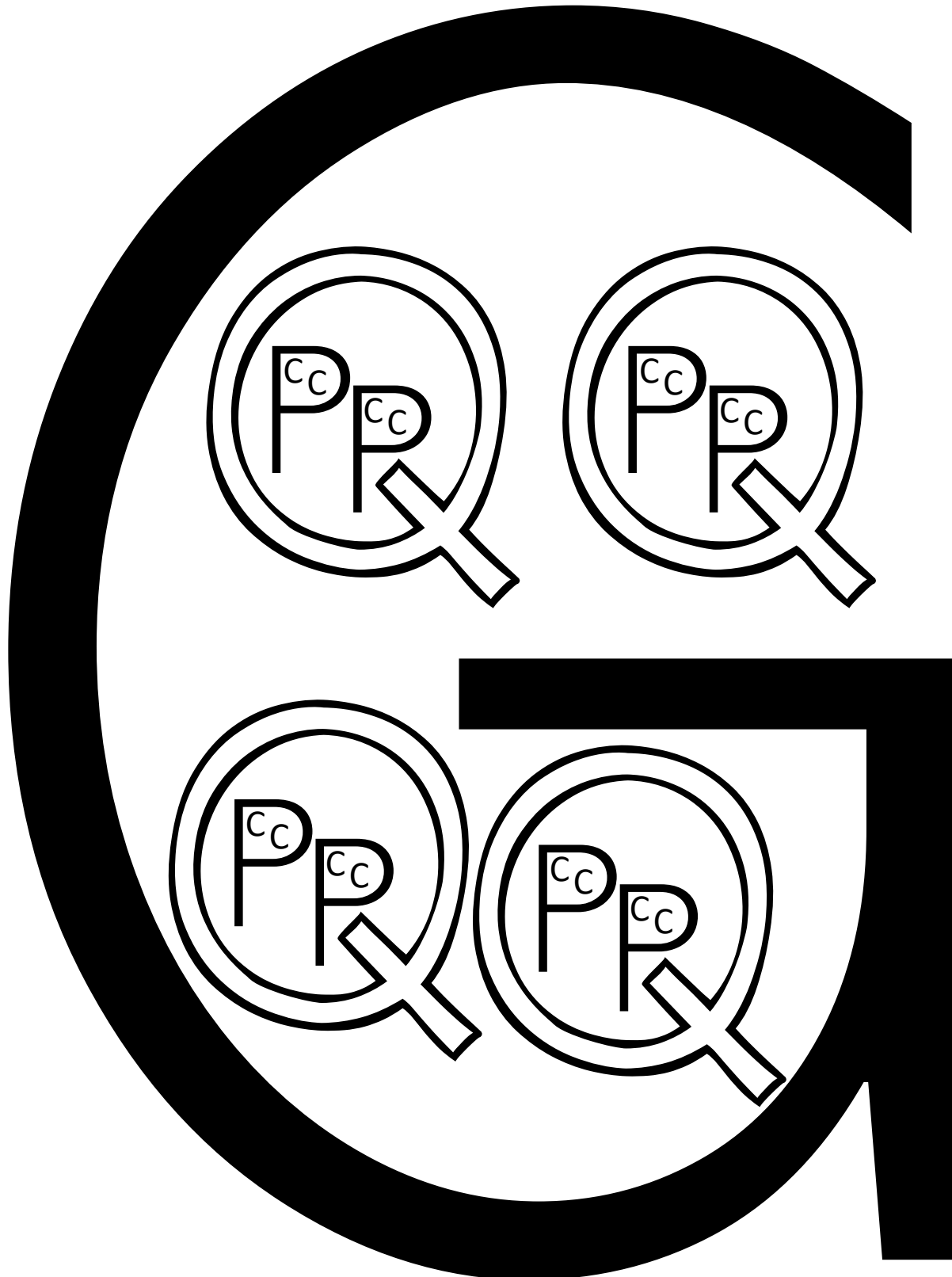
How many quarts fit in two gallons? \_\_\_\_\_

Think about it...

What did you notice during your exploration?



# Comparing Measurements





# Think About It!

**Directions:** Take a look at the capacity anchor chart.  
How does it help you understand capacity?

# Capacity Practice

Directions: Answer each question.

Use your tools and anchor chart if you need to.

How many quarts are in a gallon? \_\_\_\_\_

How many pints are in a quart? \_\_\_\_\_

How many cups are in a quart? \_\_\_\_\_

If I have two quarts, how many pints do I have? \_\_\_\_\_

If I have two gallons, how many quarts do I have? \_\_\_\_\_

If I have three pints, how many cups do I have? \_\_\_\_\_

If I have three quarts, how many cups do I have? \_\_\_\_\_

If I have three quarts, how many pints do I have? \_\_\_\_\_

If I have 16 pints, how many gallons do I have? \_\_\_\_\_

If I have 12 cups, how many pints do I have? \_\_\_\_\_

Think about it...

What did you notice during your exploration?

# Measuring Capacity

If I have

**1 gallon**

I have the same amount as

4 quarts

8 pints

16 cups

This means that 1 GALLON is the same amount as \_\_\_\_ CUPS.

If I have

**1 half gallon**

I have the same amount as

2 quarts

4 pints

8 cups

This means that 1 half GALLON is the same amount as \_\_\_\_ QUARTS.

If I have

**1 quart**

I have the same amount as

2 pints

4 cups

This means that 1 QUART is the same amount as \_\_\_\_ PINTS.

If I have

**1 pint**

I have the same amount as

2 cups

This means that 1 PINT is the same amount as \_\_\_\_ CUPS.