Mass and Capacity

Key Vocabulary

- mass
- gram
- kilogram
- capacity
- volume
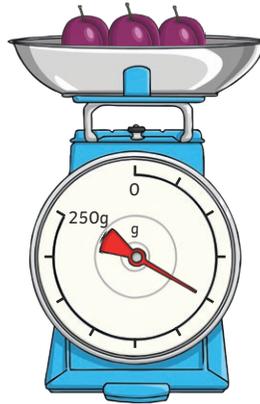- millilitre
- litre
- lighter
- heavier

Measure and Compare Mass

Scales can be used to measure grams.

A gram is a unit of measurement that is used to measure the mass of something.
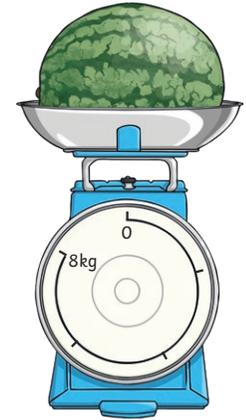
Grams can be written as **g**.

Scales can be used to measure kilograms.

A kilogram is a unit of measurement that is greater than a gram. It is also used to measure the mass of something.

Kilograms can be written as **kg**.

1000g = 1kg

To compare mass, we can use the words 'heavier' and 'lighter'.
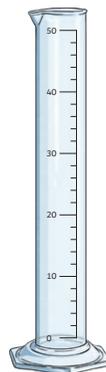
Measure and Compare Capacity

Capacity is the amount of liquid a container can hold.

Volume is how much liquid is in the container.

Measuring cylinders can be used to measure smaller volumes.

Smaller volumes are measured in millilitres.

Millilitres can be written as ml.

Measuring jugs can be used to measure larger volumes.

Greater volumes are measured in litres.

Litres can be written as l.

1000ml = 1l

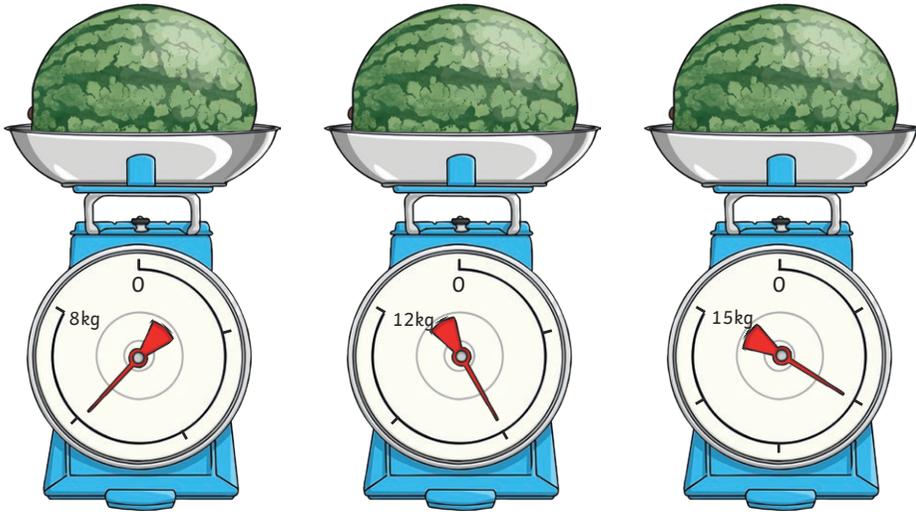To compare capacities, we can use the word 'full'.
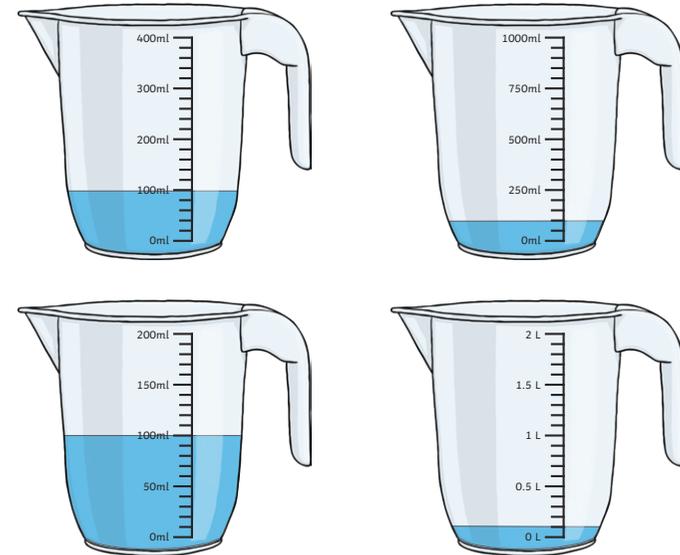
Reading Scales

Mass

Each of the melons has a mass of 6kg but the arrows are all pointing at different points on the scales. This is because each of the measuring scales have different increments marked on them.

Always look carefully at how the numbers on the scales increase when reading a measurement.

Capacity

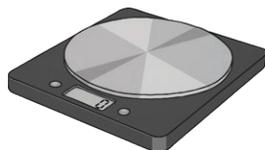Measuring containers all have different capacities.

Each of these containers contain the same volume of 100 millilitres but have different capacities and scales. Always look carefully at how the numbers on the scales increase when reading a measurement.

Add and Subtract Mass

600g + 500g = 1100g = **1kg 100g**

1kg - 300g = 1000g - 300g = **700g**

Add and Subtract Capacities

800ml + 400ml = 1200ml = **1l 200ml**

1l 300ml − 200ml = **1l 100ml**