

32 SIZES

Activity 34 Snapping Spaghetti



A few sticks of uncooked spaghetti for each child
1 paper towel for each child



Before cooking spaghetti for snack or lunch, try this activity. Have the children wash their hands. Let each child take a few sticks of spaghetti and snap them into shorter and shorter pieces. Children discover that one long stick can be broken into many short sticks. Have each child hold up the shortest piece she has. Have each child hold up the longest piece he has. Working on a paper towel will keep the spaghetti clean, so that it can be cooked and eaten.



Children see that one long piece may be broken into many shorter pieces.

Children gain experience in comparing lengths.

Children who cannot yet cut gain satisfaction from the ability to make something shorter without having to use scissors.



Can you think of anything that grows long until we cut it shorter and then it grows long again? (hair, toenails, grass)

Activity 35 Long Straws, Short Straws



2 plastic drinking straws for each child
For 5s and 6s, scissors and 1 paper cup for each child



Cut one end of each straw to a point, so that it will fit into the end of another straw. Pass out a straw to each child. Ask the children to try to think of a way to make each straw longer. Give each child a second straw; let the children experiment until someone discovers that one will fit inside the other, matching a pointed end to a rounded end. Let everyone join both straws to make one longer straw. Next, have the children join many straws to make very long straws. Finally, try joining all the straws together to make the longest straw of all!

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