Measurement activities: compare and fit

One child at a time. Read the steps, watch without helping, and note what the child does. Real objects are best; each card has a picture to use when there are none.

Activity 1 What can we measure?

1. Give the child a real apple, or show the picture.
2. Ask: “What could we measure about this apple?”
3. If the child says its colour, ask once: “Is there another thing we could find out?”
4. Write down what the child says.



Look for: Names something that can be measured about the apple, such as how big around it is or how heavy it is. Another fair thing about its size is fine too.

Not yet: Naming its colour or what it is called.

What the child did and said: _____

Activity 2 Compare two things

1. Give the child two apples that are close in weight, so that looking is not enough.
2. Ask: “Which one is heavier? Show me how you find out.”
3. Then point to the other one and ask: “And this one?”

Look for: Compares them directly (holds one in each hand, or puts them on a balance) and says which one is heavier and which one is lighter.

Not yet: Answering from a look without comparing, or naming only one of the two.

The child did and said: _____

Activity 3 Which lid fits?

1. Find one container and three lids: one that fits, one too small and one too big. Check them yourself first.
2. Say: “Which lid fits? Try them, and show me how you know.” Do not give hints.
3. Point to each of the others and ask: “Why doesn't this one fit?”

Look for: Tries all three lids, chooses the one that fits, and says the others are too small or too big, by pointing to the edges or with words such as wider, narrower or the same size.

Not yet: Choosing a lid without trying them, or not saying why the others do not fit.

The lid chosen, and why: _____

Measurement activities: compare and fit: class record

▯ did it on their own ○ not yet – not seen yet. Write the date beside a mark to see progress over the year.

Child	1 What can we measure?	2 Compare two things	3 Which lid fits?