Measuring jug

Strand

Measuring

Learning objective

Use suitable non-standard or standard units and measuring instruments, (eg a measuring jug)

Type of starter

Refine

Whiteboard tools
- Press 'options' to set the following: 'scale mode': none; 'subdivisions': none; 'fill steps': manual.
- Press 'in' to fill the jug, and press it again to stop filling.
- Press 'out' to empty the jug, and press it again to stop emptying.
- Press 'reset' to start again.

What to do

This activity introduces measuring instruments in the form of a measuring jug. It may be helpful to label the divisions 0 to 10 with the whiteboard pen, starting with 0 at the base of the jug. Ask the children to read aloud together the divisions up to 10, as you point to them.

Tell the children that they are going to find out how much water has been put in the jug, by reading the markers on the jug. Fill the jug part way (up to, for example, the 3 mark) and then question the children about the reading. Explain that you want them to read the level to the nearest marker. Ask questions such as: *How much water would we need to put in to half fill it?* Experiment with filling and emptying the jug to find the difference between two markers, describing the levels using non-standard units such as *half full; three cups full*. Test your predictions using an actual measuring jug and other containers, such as cups, egg cups and so on .
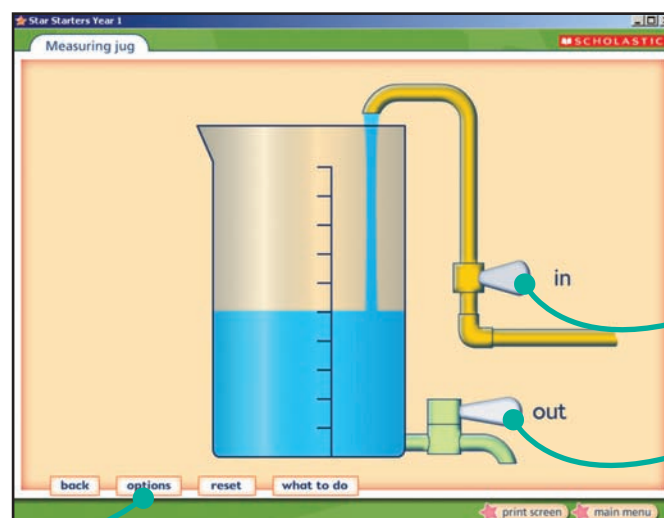
Differentiation

Less confident: concentrate on reinforcing the children's understanding of capacity. Ask: *How many cups would fill the jug?*
More confident: challenge the children to make a more accurate reading, such as 3½ on the scale if the level falls between the third and fourth markers. Compare to reading a number line.

Key questions
- *A glass of water is poured into the jug.* (Fill jug to half way.) *How much water was in the glass?*
- *If another glass of water is added, what level will the marker be at?*

'options'
Hide the scale; select 'no subdivisions' and set 'fill steps' to manual

'in'
- Press to fill the jug
- Press again to stop filling

'out'
- Press to empty the jug
- Press again to stop emptying