



Weight

The pulling force of gravity gives everything weight.

Force is the word scientists use for a push or a pull. Weight is the everyday word we use for a force that pulls things down. When you hold something, you might say 'this is heavy', or 'this is light', or 'it weighs a lot'.

The object is being pulled down by gravity. It's pulling down on your hand which is how you can tell if it is light or heavy.



This is a kilo weight used on some food scales.



There are spring scales to measure your weight, and the weight of food.



Do an investigation

You can measure the weight of things using a spring scale.

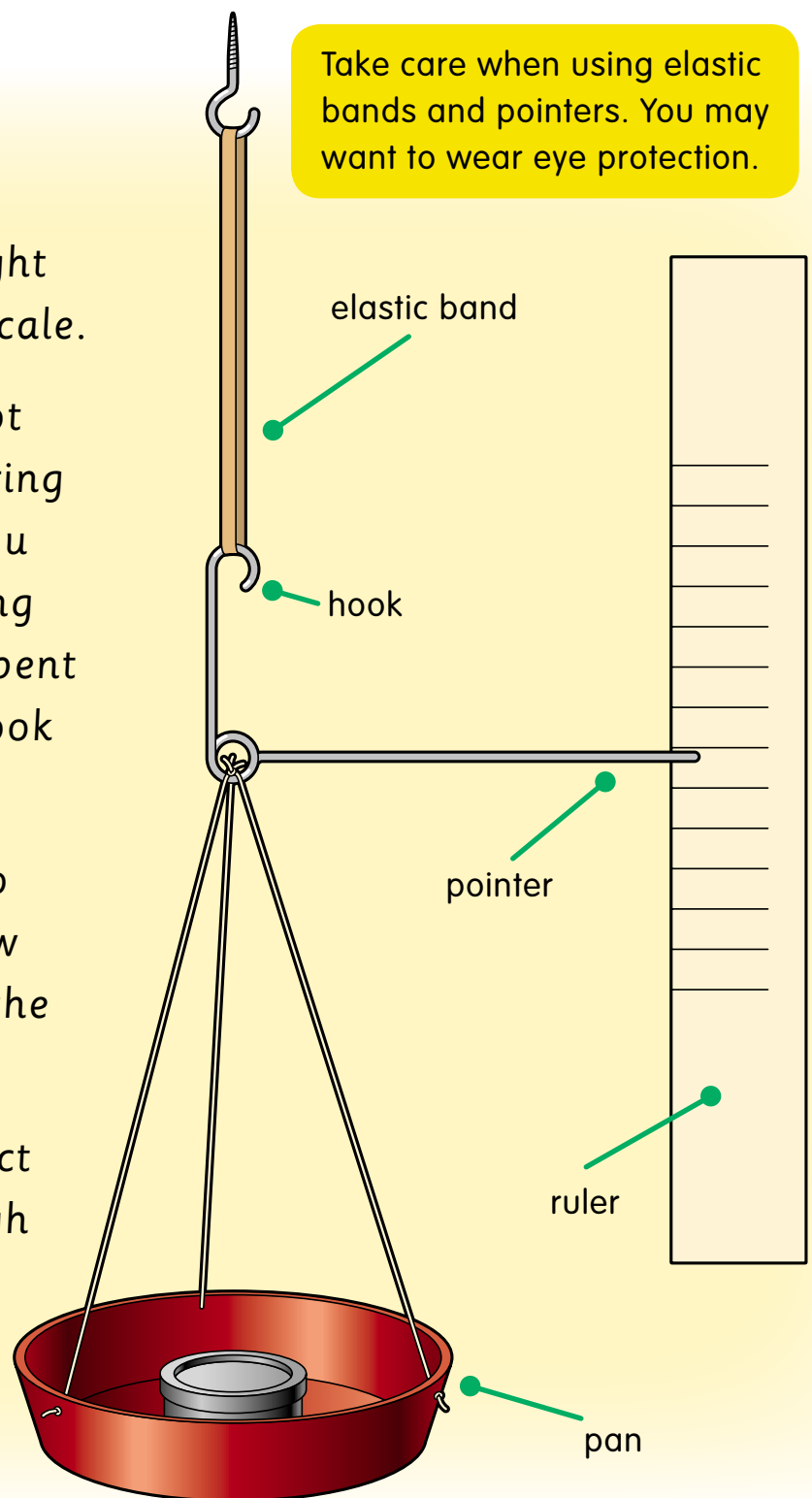
1

You need a flowerpot saucer and some string to make the pan. You need a ruler, a strong elastic band and a bent paperclip to be a hook and a pointer.

2

Add small objects to the pan and see how far down the scale the pointer moves.

Before you add each object try to guess if it will weigh more or less than the one before it.



Make this spring scale to measure the force called weight for a variety of objects around you.