Make sure you ask an adult which containers and other equipment are suitable for you to use and, if they are breakable, make sure you handle them very carefully! I suggest you do this activity outside as spillages will occur!

Exploring Capacity

Task 1

Collect together 10 watertight containers from around your home. You can use anything *you have permission from an adult to use*, such as clean yoghurt pots or jam jars from the recycling, or cups or ramekins from the cupboards. Try to find a good range of shapes: tall thin containers, low flat containers, rectangular, cylindrical, irregular-shaped and so on. Here are the ones I found:

Now, *just by looking at them*, put them in predicted order of capacity. Remember, capacity is how much something can hold inside it. Line them up in order, predicted biggest to predicted smallest. Take a photo if you can.

Part One - Try it out: Now test out whether your prediction was correct. Fill the predicted-to-be largest container with water. Tip it into the next container in the line. Is there some left over? This will help you to know which container is biggest. Continue pouring the water along from one container to the next, thinking about what the results are telling you about the capacity of the containers. Re-order the line as necessary, and take another photo.

Part Two - Double Check: Another way of checking the capacity of a container is by using a measuring jug from the kitchen. Fill the container, then carefully pour the water into a measuring jug and use the scale on the side to read the volume of water in millilitres (ml). Fill in a table like this in your Home Learning Book:

Container	Volume of water held (ml)	Order of capacity (1 = biggest)
A (Takeaway tray)	600ml	1
B (Bottle)	275ml	3

Use the last column to put them in order. Compare it with your prediction. Were you correct? Discuss with an adult any surprises you had and how the shape of a container affects its capacity. Send me photos of your exploration if you can. :)
home-learning@trinity.shropshire.sch.uk