

Onions

Annotation

Carlos is able to read a scale to a numbered interval. He shows that he has a sense of the size of a kilogram by using large onions first as he seeks to measure 1 kilogram. He understands that he is able to exchange items of different weights in order to be more precise in his measuring.

Problem: Onions

The teacher tells the student that the supermarket sells onions in 1-kilogram bags and asks the student to weigh out 1 kilogram of onions on the kitchen scales.



Student Response

Carlos looks at the scale and then starts adding onions to the pan. He begins by adding large onions and, as the measuring needle comes closer to the 1-kilogram mark, he looks more frequently at the needle. He exchanges one large onion for two smaller onions to ensure that the needle settles directly on the 1-kilogram mark.

Carlos: That's 1 kilogram.