

Balancing Clown!



Experiment:

To show how lowering the centre of gravity improves balance.

Materials:

You will need:

- Thick Card
- Glue
- Scissors
- Colouring Pencils or Markers
- Coins (5c or 2c)
- Blue Tack



Method:

What you have to do:

1. Get a piece of card with the picture of a clown on it.
2. Our card was a bit light, so we doubled it and stuck the two halves together.
3. Cut out the clown and colour it .
4. Try to balance it on the edge of a ruler or your finger. Did it balance? No?
5. Put some weight on each hand, using the blue tack and coins. Now try to balance it again.

Result:

The clown will balance on the edge of your ruler or finger.

Conclusion:

By putting a weight on the hands of the clown, you are lowering the centre of gravity and helping your clown to balance!

Note: Knowing a little about the centre of gravity can be very important. Gravity pulls everything down - and everything has a central point of gravity where gravity exerts the most pull. By lowering this central point, as we demonstrated with the clowns, you can achieve much greater balance.

A double decker bus needs to be filled from the bottom to have a low centre of gravity. If it was only filled on the top, chances are it would topple over!!