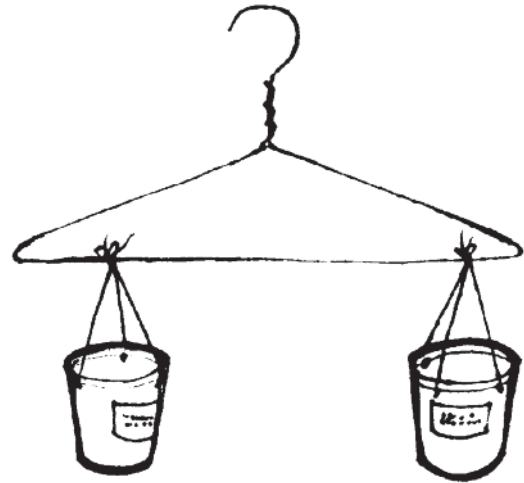


A Balance for the New Year

Materials:

metal clothes hanger
2 plastic or styrofoam cups
6, 6" pieces of string or yarn
sheet of address labels (optional)



Directions for making the balance:

1. Punch 3 holes in each cup.
2. Tie a 6" piece of yarn or string to each of the holes in the cups.
3. On each cup, knot the 3 pieces of yarn together at the top.
4. Tie the cups to each end of the clothes hanger.

Directions for use:

- Cut out little cards. Have children think about things they did this past year that were good and not so good. Then have them write these down on the cards and put the cards in the proper cups.
- Have students label one cup, "Things I have done this past year that are **good**." and the other cup, "Things I have done this past year that are **not good**."
- For the younger children, the teacher could go over possible ideas with the class and write them on the board. Then the children could choose and copy the ones that apply to them.

Variations:

- Make copies of the sentences (or pictures depicting the idea) and have the children cut out the ones they want to use.
- Copy the attached sheet containing the "Things I have done this past year that are **good**." and the "Things I have done this past year that are **not good**." sentences onto address labels. This will make it easier for students to label their cups.