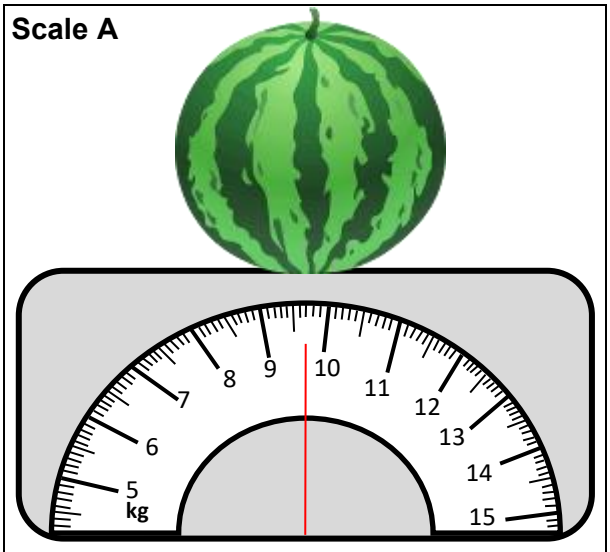
Measuring weights, precision & errors

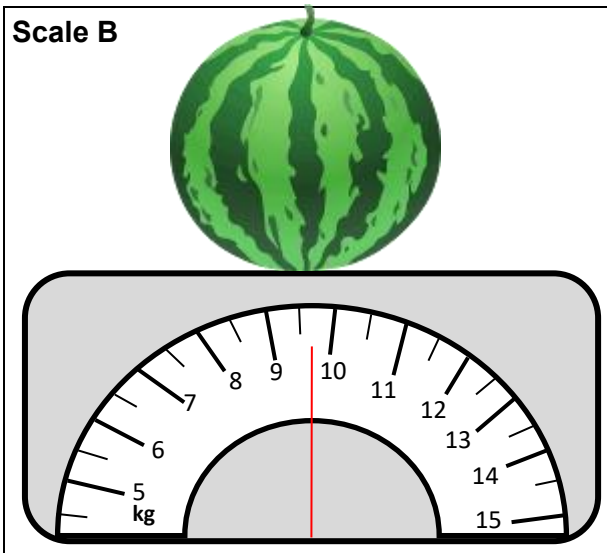
Grade 5 Measurement Worksheet

Scale A



How heavy is the watermelon? _____

Scale B



How heavy is the watermelon? _____

1. Which scale is more precise, A or B? Why?

   _____

2. Are your measurements exact? Explain.

   _____

3. Jeremy measured the weight of the luggage for his travel. He recorded the weight as 3,520 +/- 25 g. Why do you think Jeremy recorded the weight like that?

   _____

4. What do you think the minimum weight of the luggage is?

   _____

5. What do you think the maximum weight of the luggage is?

   _____

Answers

Scale A		Scale B	
How heavy is the watermelon?	9 7/10 kg	How heavy is the watermelon?	Between 9 1/2 and 10 kg

1. Which scale is more precise, A or B? Why?

   Scale A is more precise because it has smaller divisions.

2. Are your measurements exact? Explain.

   All physical measurements contain some uncertainty.

3. Jeremy measured the weight of the luggage for his travel. He recorded the weight as 3,520 +/- 25 g. Why do you think Jeremy recorded the weight like that?

   Jeremy knew that his measurement was not exact, and wanted to show that the weight was between 3,495 and 3,545 g.

4. What do you think the minimum weight of the luggage is?

   3,495 g

5. What do you think the maximum weight of the luggage is?

   3,545 g