

Experiment: Center of Gravity

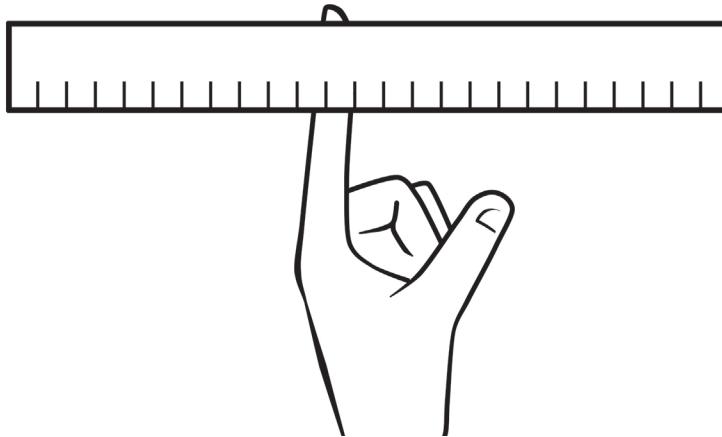
Every object has a spot that is called the center of gravity.
Try this experiment to find the center of gravity of a ruler.

What You Need

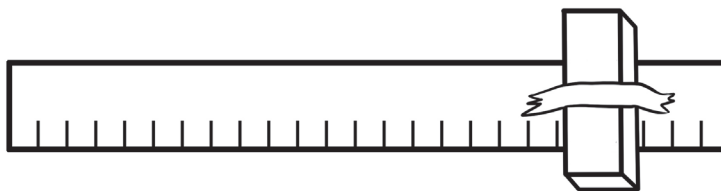
- 12 in. (30 cm) ruler
- Masking tape
- Eraser
- Partner

What You Do

1. Balance the ruler on your finger. (Move your finger right or left to find the spot where the ruler balances.) This spot is the ruler's center of gravity.



2. Mark the center of gravity with a small piece of masking tape.
Write "1" on the masking tape.
3. Place an eraser 1 in. (3 cm) from the end of the ruler and tape it in place.



4. Repeat steps 1 and 2. This time, mark the center of gravity with a piece of masking tape with "2" written on it.