



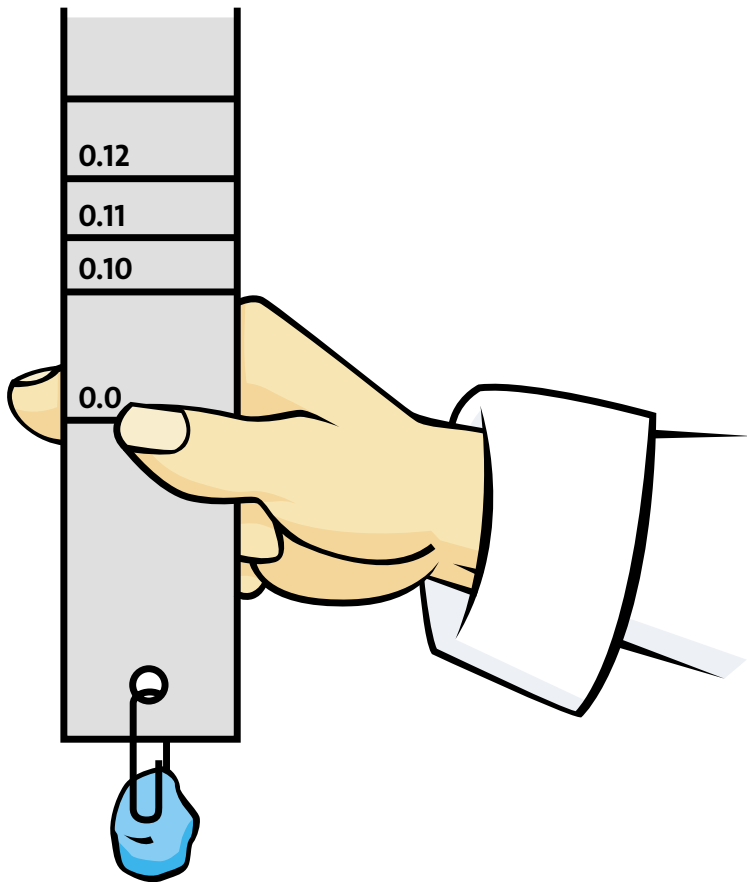
My Reaction Time

EQUIPMENT	Reaction strip, Paper clip, Plasticine, Glue or Pritt, Hole puncher.
PREPARATION	Photocopy and cut out reaction timer strips.
BACKGROUND INFORMATION	Although light and heavy things fall to the ground at the same speed (Galileo's famous experiment from the Tower of Pisa), because paper is very light it can be subject to air resistance, currents, etc. A piece of Plasticine weighs it down so that gravity is the only relevant force acting on it and all the timers should fall to the ground with similar acceleration. Do the pieces of Plasticine have to be the same weight for fair testing among a group?
SKILLS	Investigating Estimating Measuring
ACTIVITY	<p>Timing your Reaction: Cut out the reaction strip, fold down the centre vertical line and glue the two sides together. Make a small hole near the bottom edge, insert the paper clip and add a piece of Plasticine to weigh the strip down.</p> <p>To test the speed of your reaction get a friend to hold the top of the strip; place your thumb and first finger so that they are level with the 0.00 line. Your friend drops the strip and you try to catch it as quickly as possible between your thumb and first finger. Read your reaction speed in seconds from the scale on the strip.</p>
SAFETY	—
FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES	The children could test their reaction times in different situations.



My Reaction Time Continued

Reaction Timer



0.25	
0.24	
0.23	
0.22	
0.21	
0.20	
0.19	
0.18	
0.17	
0.16	
0.15	
0.14	
0.13	
0.12	
0.11	
0.10	
0.00	
Approximate time in seconds	