Big Question: How can we tell which container is bigger?

Learning Objectives: Think about how tall, how wide, how deep, and how the shapes change.

Activity Plan:

1) Pick out five different containers in your kitchen. Don’t take ones that are really big, just take small and medium ones. You can use glasses, small bowls, tupperware containers, or whatever else works.
2) Label each with a letter, A, B, C, D and E.

3) Arrange them in order from smallest to biggest. Write down the order the letters are in. You can take a photo of them all in line if you’d like.

4) Take the one that you think is smallest. Fill it with small beans or rice, something that is dry and easy to pour. Then, pour it into the one you think is the second smallest. Do all the beans fit? Were you right about which one is smaller?

5) Keep using the beans to compare which containers hold more. Were you right about all the sizes? Line up the containers again from smallest to biggest, and compare to your original order. Did anything change? Write down the new order. Take a new picture at the end.

6) Clean up the beans or rice, and any mess you’ve made. Put all the containers back.

7) Write down anything you learned. What surprised you? What was easy? What was hard?

Sharing: If you took a photo, send it to your teacher, along with the questions you answered.