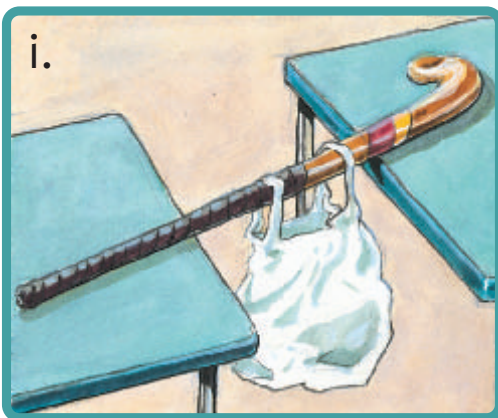


Breaking Bags

- You need**
- plastic supermarket bags
 - a hockey stick or broom handle
 - plastic bottles filled with water or bricks
- bathroom scales
 - a classmate

Activity

1. How strong are plastic bags from the supermarket?
Find out by testing them with a classmate.



Step i.

Put a hockey stick or broom handle between two desks. Make sure the floor is protected. Hang a plastic bag by putting the stick through the handles of the bag.



Step ii.

Fill the bag with bricks or plastic drink bottles filled with water. Keep your feet clear of the bag because eventually it will break.



Step iii.

When the bag has broken, use bathroom scales to measure the mass of the bricks or plastic bottles.

2. You should know the mass of the plastic bottles without measuring.
How? Discuss this with your classmate.
3. Try a variety of plastic bags from different places.
Which bags are the strongest?