

BIG ROCKS ACTIVITY

- ▶ For this activity, assign students to small groups to work together. Give each group an empty jar and some large rocks, smaller rocks, and sand or water. Ask groups to try to fit all of the items into their jars.
- ▶ The objects that students put in first will determine how much of the other items they can put in afterward. If they put sand or water in first, nothing else will fit, but if they start with the big rocks and go down, they will be able to fit some of each item. Observe students as they work and coach them to try different solutions if they get stuck. Have extra supplies ready as needed.
- ▶ After 10–15 minutes of work, conclude the activity with a discussion. Ask students to share what worked best and what didn't. Share with students that the big rocks represent our most important tasks. If we manage our time so that we complete those important tasks first, then we will likely find time to complete our other tasks as well. The same is true for filling the jar, add big rocks first and all of the items will fit in the jar.