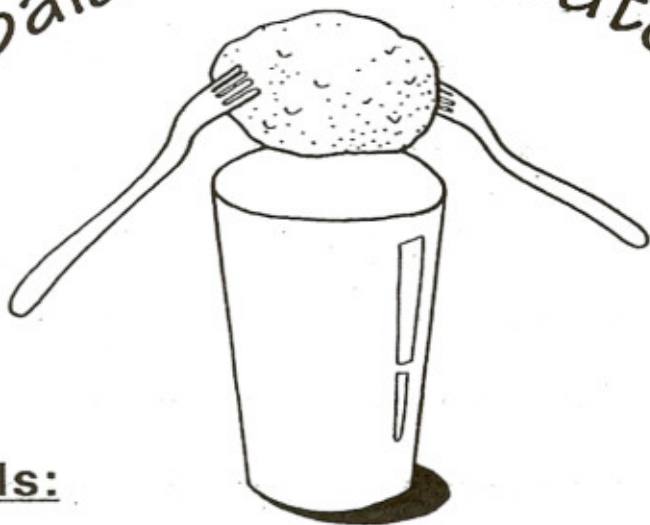


Balancing a Potato



Materials:

- a glass
- one small raw potato
- two identical forks

Procedure:

1. Place the glass on a flat surface.
2. Push the prongs of one fork upward into one side of the potato. Repeat this with the second fork on the opposite side of the potato. Both fork handles should stick out at the same angle on each side.
3. Center the potato on the edge of the glass. Adjust the position and the forks until they balance.
4. What allows the potato to balance on the edge of the glass?

Why It Works:

A potato will balance over the point called the center of gravity. The long heavy forks help change the center of gravity to a lower point, making the potato more stable and easier to balance.