BFSU D-1

Down Means Toward the Middle

the lesson's song — sing it, then say what it means

SONG

Verse 1

Let go of a stone and it doesn't just stay,
Everything unsupported falls away.
Not sometimes, not mostly — every single time,
Anywhere on Earth, and that's the rhyme.

Chorus

Gravity! Gravity! Pulling toward the middle!
Down isn't under, down is IN.
Vertical, horizontal, plumb line and level —
There's no edge to fall off. Let's sing it again!

Verse 2

A child in Australia stands upside down to me,
But she feels right side up, as right as can be.
Her down and my down both point the same way:
Straight to the middle, night and day.

(Chorus)

Verse 3

Hang a weight on a string and let it be still,
That's vertical, that's plumb, that's the builder's will.
Lay the bubble flat till it sits in the middle,
That's horizontal, that's level. Solve the riddle!

Verse 4

Step on the scale and read what it said:
Gravity's pull on me is that many pounds instead.
On the moon you'd weigh less, you'd bounce and you'd hover —
Less pull up there, but it's pulling however.

(Chorus ×2)

Tag (spoken, kids): "Gravity... vertical... horizontal... LEVEL!"

How to use it. Play the recording once while everyone just listens. Play it again and join in on the chorus only — that is the part carrying the lesson. By the third time most children have the chorus. Then close the binder and ask what the words actually mean; a child who can sing it and explain it has the idea for good.