

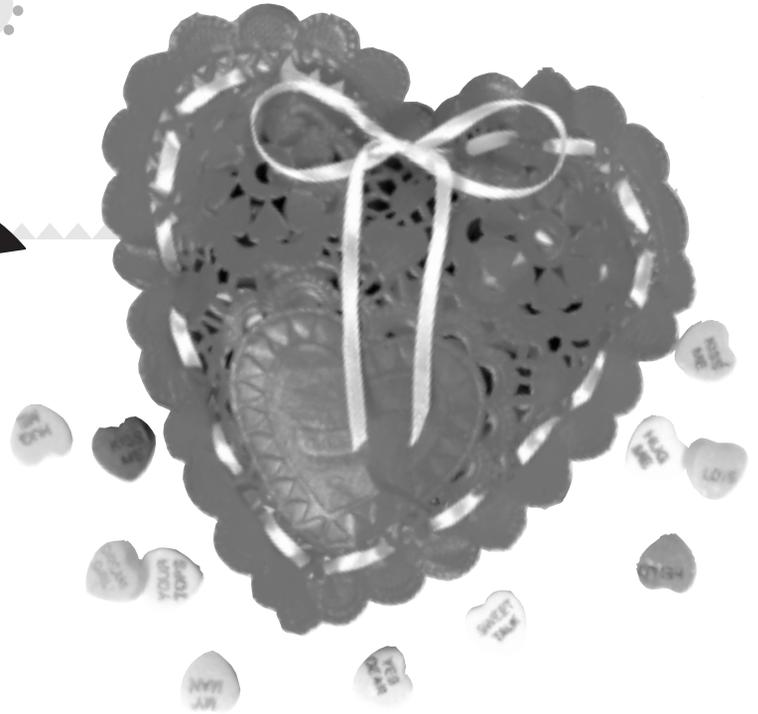
# Heart-Filled Valentines

Children explore estimation and volume by filling a Valentine with sweet hearts!

## Materials

For each child:

- ❁ 2 small heart-shaped or round doilies
- ❁ 1 foot red, white, or pink curling ribbon
- ❁ small candy conversation hearts (number will vary)
- ❁ paper and pencil
- ❁ hole punch (optional)



## Ahead of Time

If the doilies you use have very small holes, you may want to use a hole punch to make larger holes around the edges. Children will be threading ribbon through these holes.

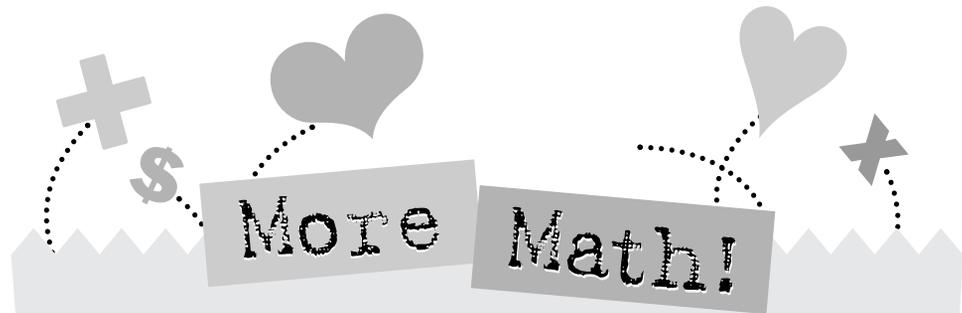
**1** Divide the class into groups. Give each child two doilies and a piece of ribbon. Have children knot one end of the ribbon. Then show them how to sew together the two doilies. They do this by first lining up the doilies, then weaving the unknotted end of the ribbon in and out of the holes around the edges of the doilies. Have them leave a wide opening at the top.



Book  
Gallery

Fun and funny poems by Jack Prelutsky give children an insight into all aspects of this heartfelt holiday in *It's Valentine's Day* (Greenwillow Press, 2013)

- 2 Pass out five small candy hearts to each child. Ask: "How many hearts do you think you will need to fill your heart packet and still be able to sew it closed?" Ask children to record their estimates.
- 3 Tell children to take the number of hearts they estimate will fill the heart. As children fill the hearts, ask them how close they think their estimates will come to the actual number.
- 4 Ask how many chose too many hearts. How many children chose too few? How many children think they chose just the right number?
- 5 Children can record their final number, then sew the tops of the hearts closed, make a bow, and cut off any excess.
- 6 As a class, discuss the estimates and results. Write children's figures on the chalkboard. Ask children to describe their estimating methods. Together, conclude why some estimates were more accurate than others.



**Valentines With Big Hearts** Repeat the activity using large candy conversation hearts (or another candy that comes in larger pieces). Ask children to draw conclusions about how the size of the candies relates to the number needed to fill the hearts. (The larger the candies, the fewer pieces needed.)

