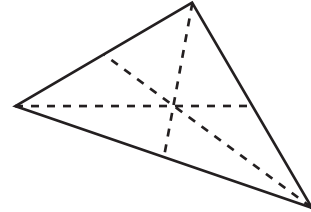


MathFLIX CHALLENGE

Constructing the balance point in triangles

Archimedes figured out that the center of gravity, or the balance point, of any triangle can be identified by drawing line segments from each vertex to the center of the opposite side. The point where the lines intersect is the point of balance.

1. Find the midpoint of each side of the triangle.
 - a) Measure the side with the cm. side of your ruler.
 - b) Divide the length by 2.
 - c) Mark that point.



2. Connect the midpoint you have just marked with the opposite vertex or angle of the triangle.
3. Can you identify the balance point?
4. Cut out the triangle and try to balance it on your finger or on a pencil.

