

1086-P5-1500 **Mary K. Flagg*** (mflagg@math.uh.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of Houston,
641 Philip Guthrie Hoffman Hall, Houston, TX 77204-3008. *Juggling Finite Mathematics*.

No, I don't juggle, but I use a bag of juggling balls to illustrate the concepts of combinations and permutations in my Finite Math classroom. I often teach a large section of finite, my fall section has nearly 300 students. Therefore, many of the more interactive activities are not practical. However, my students really need tactile examples of the number of ways to choose a certain number of objects drawn at random from a container of some sort. I use a clear plastic box with a collection of six to eight inch diameter balls. They are large enough for most students to see, yet small enough to carry. I often take my props with me to the tutoring center, and many of the struggling students find hands on examples very helpful. I am teaching 2 sections of finite math this fall, and plan on using this activity in only one of them. I will demonstrate my activity and present my results on the difference the activity made in student understanding. (Received September 22, 2012)