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In Calculus, finding the volume of a solid of rotation by cross section is a typical application of integration. Students, however, often have trouble visualizing these cross sections. While teaching the course recently, we developed a real-life analogy using hard boiled eggs.

Our multi-disciplinary approach entailed modeling the egg as al ellipsoid, using Calculus to derive a formula to compute the volume, and then measuring the volume directly by water displacement. We then employed statistics to decide whether the two methods agreed. (Received August 16, 2005)