

STEM

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How to make a periscope

A periscope lets you look around walls, corners, or other obstacles. Submarines have periscopes so the sailors inside can see what's on the surface of the water.

You will need

- A sheet of cardboard, the bigger the sheet of cardboard the bigger the periscope
- Scissors
- Tape
- Pencil
- Two small mirrors – the size of the mirrors will depend on the size of your cardboard
- Ruler
- Blu Tack

Method

1. Measure the width of the mirrors (remember the bigger the mirrors, the more you can see).
2. On the sheet of cardboard, rule up four columns. Each column should be the width of your mirror.
3. Fold along the lines so you have formed a box and tape the edges together.
4. On one end of the box, cut a flap that is the same height as your mirror.
5. Stick a mirror to the inside of this flap with some Blu Tack.
6. Cut another flap on the other end, on the opposite side of the box.
7. Stick the other mirror to the inside of this flap with some Blu Tack.
8. Cut away the side of the box that's opposite the mirrors on either end.
9. Bend the flaps inwards to try to find the correct angle so that what is reflected on the top mirror is also seen on the bottom mirror.
10. Draw a line to mark where the correct angles are on either end.
11. Cut off this bit of cardboard and tape it to the edge of the box.
12. Look through the bottom hole to see over fences or even around corners.

