



Magic Pipe Cleaners



Activity:

Learn how magnets work with pieces of pipe cleaners in a plastic bottle

Supplies:

- several different colored pipe cleaners
- empty and dry clear water/soda bottle or clear plastic container
- popsicle/craft stick or pencil
- magnet
- scissors

Instructions:

1. Dry out an empty clear soda or water bottle, or collect a clear plastic container
2. Cut pipe cleaners into $\frac{1}{2}$ inch pieces
3. Place the pipe cleaner pieces into the bottle or container
4. Attach the magnet to the stick or pencil
5. Move the magnet along the outside of the bottle to see how many pipe cleaner pieces it can attract at a time.
6. Try to count the pipe cleaner pieces
7. Talk about how magnets work: they have a positive and negative side and can attract things that are made of metal, and pipe cleaners have a metal wire that gives them their shape. The metal seems to "stick" to wherever the magnet is on the other side of the bottle/container.

Sources:

<https://www.playdoughtoplato.com/kids-science-magic-pipe-cleaners/>