

LEARNING RESOURCE

'Feel the Force' Magnetic Sculptures



This super simple, hands-on activity allows students to explore weight, balance and tension through a sculptural medium. Once made these magnetic 'sculpture kits' can be remade again and again, and new ways of balancing the 3d shapes can be endlessly explored. These kits can be extended into games, science and maths tools, as well as referencing colorful abstract sculpture.

What will I need for this project?:

- Sticky back, magnetic tape, M-Pole type (type that is magnetised to itself)
- Cardboard strips
- Coloured / patterned paper
- Glue

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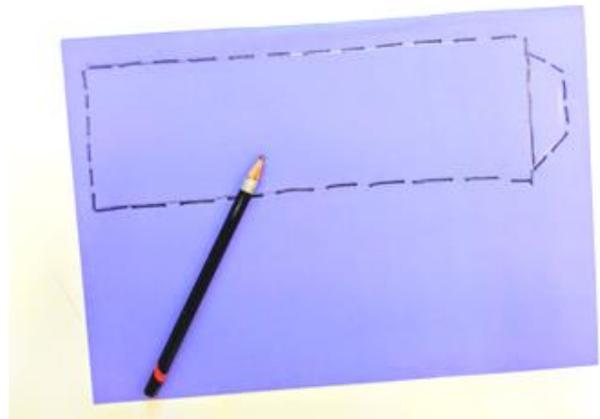
Step 1

Cut a strip of cardboard. Anything around 25cmx10cm will be perfect. Nothing smaller than 20cm in length. Lay the cardboard onto your paper, and draw around it, leaving extra space at one end.



Step 2

Draw a tab at the end of your outline. This will be used to attach the two ends together later.



Step 3

Cut round your outline and stick the paper to your cardboard, leaving the tab sticking out at the end.



Step 4

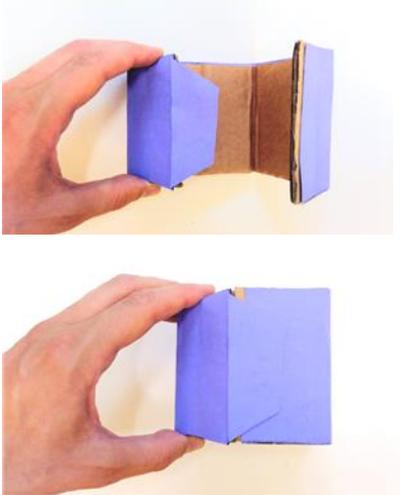
Make 2-3 folds in your cardboard



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Step 5

Use the tab to stick the two ends together.



Step 6

Stick on 2-3 pieces of magnetic tape



Step 7

Repeat these steps to make more 3D shapes with different colours and designs



Step 8

Stack and balance your shapes to make your own creative, colourful sculptures



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How can I extend this project?

- The stacks can be used as a base for further materials to make more crazy sculptures
- Instead of using paper the card shapes can be painted or printed onto
- Once stacked a map/maze can be drawn onto the shapes, another student then has to try and find the original way they were put together
- Make two teams out of your class and see who can make the biggest stack the quickest.
- One group could make the kits for another age group to play with
- Whatever else you can think of!

