

DIY MAGNIFYING GLASS



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MATERIALS

- A clear plastic bottle (2 liters are great!)
- Scissors and utility knife or Xacto knife
- A pen or marker
- Hot glue or waterproof craft glue
- A trusted adult to help with the cutting and gluing

PREPARATION

- Get a closer look at all the cool stuff you can find outdoors by making your own magnifier!
- Trace and cut out 2 same-size circles from the curved part at the top of a plastic bottle. Pro tip: use your knife to cut off the bottom of the bottle, then you can use scissors to cut out the circles. Put glue around $\frac{3}{4}$ of the edge of one of the discs you just cut out. Press the edges of the 2 discs together so that it looks like a round pillow.
- Once the glue dries, fill the lens with water by dunking it into a bowl or sink full of water. You can get rid of air bubbles by gently squeezing the 2 sides of the lens. Dry it off and seal it up by gluing the remainder of the edge closed. Voila!
- If you don't have glue, you can still make a simple magnifier by cutting out just one disc and filling it with water. Be careful not to splash all the water out!

GO OUTSIDE!

- Look for interesting things.
- Make them appear bigger.
- Draw, photograph, write about them, or just quietly observe.