

FLY VISION

ACTIVITY SHEET

Nearly all creatures have eyes, but not all eyes work like the human eye. Dogs can only see in black and white. Owls see better at night than during the day. But do you know how an insect like a fly sees the world?

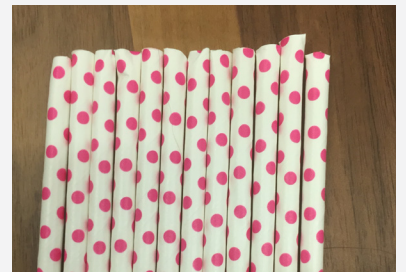
The best way to learn how a fly's eyes work is to see things from its point of view. In this activity, you will make a compound insect eye that will help you see the world the way flies do.

Here's how to make it:

1. Take six straws and cut them in half. Grasp all the straws in your hand to create a bundle. Roll a piece of tape around the center of the bundle.
2. Congratulations! You've just created a model compound insect eye. Hold the bundle up to your eye and take a look around.
3. For the full effect, repeat step 1 to make a second compound eye and create a true pair of "fly-glasses." Try walking around wearing your "fly eyes," or draw a picture of what you see with the "fly vision."

Supplies Needed

- Drinking straws
- Scissors
- Tape
- Rubber band



Fascinating Fact:

Insects see the world through many little connected parts (called facets). Humans, on the other hand, see the world in one big picture. The number of little pictures an insect sees depends on the type of insect – it could be 12 (like the number of straw halves you used) or it could be up to thousands!