LearnLibre

MAKE YOUR OWN COMPASS



10-15 minutes + questions and journal time



Find a safe and appropriate place to experiment and follow all safety instructions from LearnLibre.com.



Materials

- Small bowl
- Water
- Needle
- Magnet

- Compass (may use smartphone)
- Bottle cap or thick paper cut into a small circle
- Paper, pen, scissors (to make labels)

Procedure

- 1. Fill the small bowl with water.
- 2. Cut 4 small pieces of paper and label them North, South, East, and West.
- 3. Use a compass to find North, South, East, and West and place the labels around the bowl.
- 4. Rub the magnet along the needle (base to tip) about 50 times to magnetize it.
- 5. Place your needle on top of the bottle cap or the paper circle.
 - If you're using a paper circle, fold it in half to make a crease in the middle.
- 6. Place the needle and bottle cap (or paper circle) into the bowl of water.
- 7. Wait to see which direction the needle points!

Learn More

Scan the QR code to learn more about how this experiment works. You'll find lesson video(s) along with discussion questions and answers.

