

Peeking with Periscopes

Many animals, like giant river otters or meerkats, stand tall and reach their head up high while on the look out for predators. People can do the same thing but have also created tools to help. Periscopes allow people to look over at things from higher up or even from around a corner. Try it out with the steps below!

Materials:

- Cardboard (such as a cereal box)
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Scissors
- Tape
- Reflective materials (small mirror or old CD)

Procedure:

1. Flatten out your cardboard (If using a cereal box, you will need to open it up completely first.)
2. Using a ruler, measure out 4 evenly spaced sections along the width of the cardboard. Keep a little bit of extra cardboard on one of the sides.
3. Measure the width you measured previously and add one inch. From the top, draw a line horizontally across the cardboard at this length. Do the same on the bottom of the cardboard using the same measurement.
4. Using the image to the left as a template, use scissors to cut along all of the lines labeled “cut,” and inwardly fold all of the lines that are indicated “fold.” After doing so, your cardboard should look like the cut out image below.
5. Connect the outer sides of the cardboard and secure them with tape. It should now look like a rectangular tube.
6. On the inside of each end of the tube, attach a appropriately sized piece of reflective material to the angled piece of cardboard.
7. Your periscope is now complete! Look through your periscope to see things from different points of view!

