



SEEING THINGS IN A NEW WAY

Look down, look up, look all around! A viewfinder is a part of a camera. When you are taking a photograph, you look through the viewfinder to compose your picture. A viewfinder will frame anything that you are looking at. We do not need a camera to look through a viewfinder. You can make one with things already around the house. With a viewfinder you can explore your surroundings in a new and unusual way. The

viewfinder helps you focus on things you might not have noticed before. You can see things from a new perspective, taking the ordinary into the extraordinary!

CONSTRUCT A VIEWFINDER!

Here are different ways to make a viewfinder:

- ➔ Cut off the end of an empty paper-towel or paper-toilet roll. Flatten the shape into a square.
- ➔ Measure out a 1" x 1.5" rectangle in the middle of an index card. Cut out the rectangle.
- ➔ Repurpose a small old frame.
- ➔ Using tape, connect four popsicle sticks together to form a square.

GO AND EXPLORE!

Experiment with looking through your viewfinder. What happens when you hold the viewfinder close to your eye? What happens when you hold your viewfinder with your arm fully extended and look through? You can also use it to "frame" anything of interest to you. Try going outside and laying it down over a patch of grass. As you use the viewfinder as a tool, you will see a person, an object, a scene in a new and different way.

CREATE ART!

Gather up your art supplies you have on hand: a pencil to draw with, paper, and anything else to add color (crayons, colored pencils, markers, paint). Draw what you see through the frame or window of your viewfinder. Remember, the way you are holding your viewfinder should match the shape of your paper. Share your artwork with your friends and family when you are finished.

