



**ACADEMY
SCIENCE CAMP**
from home

DIY Insect Eyes

Insects have compound eyes. That means each eye has thousands of photoreceptors; we only have one! Our vision is much clearer; however, a compound eye can see more (wider view), detect fast movement (important when someone wants to make you their dinner), and some can even polarize light (butterflies and bees). Can you make your own insect eyes?

Know before you begin

- This activity can be done inside or outside
- All supplies are easy to find, substitute or leave out entirely
- Adult supervision is recommended
- Please choose a safe space to play

Materials

- Pre-cut strips of paper
- Pre-cut circles
- Q-tips
- Paint
- Glue
- Tape



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Instructions

Option 1:

1. Gather your DIY insect eyes supplies.
2. Take two circles and a strip of paper. Glue the two circles onto the band. These will be the bug eyes.
3. Use the Q-tip to dab "photosensors" onto the circles with paint.

*Most compound eyes have thousands.
How many can you make?!*

4. Size the band to your head and then tape it.

Option 2:

1. Alternatively, you can use many toilet paper tubes gathered together.
2. Stick them together with glue or tape to make one bundle for each eye and use them like binoculars.

What other household items could you use to make insect eyes?

