

MAGNETISM FOR KIDS

What is a compass?

It is really easy and fun to make a compass at home or in the classroom. To try it for yourself, all you need is the following items:

- A dish of water
- A piece of cork
- A magnet
- A needle.



Step one

First you will need to magnetise the needle by rubbing the north pole of the magnet along it several times in the direction of the point.

Step two

Next, you need to stick the needle to the top of the cork with a piece of sticky tape.

Step three

Then, simply float the needle on the cork in the water and watch as the magnetised needle spins in the water until its sharp end (north pole) is pointing towards the Earth's magnetic North Pole.