

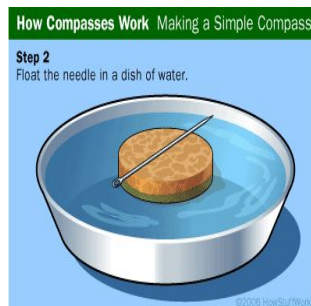
Make Your Own Compass

Hi Owls! Since we are learning about maps this week, here is a cool project that will show you how you can make a homemade compass using things around your home. This is definitely a project that will require grown-up help. Here is what you will need:

- A needle or some other wire-like piece of steel (a straightened paper clip, for example)
- Something small that floats such as a piece of cork, the bottom of a Styrofoam coffee cup, a piece of plastic or the cap from a milk jug
- A dish, preferably a pie plate, 9 to 12 inches (23 - 30 cm) in diameter, with about an inch (2.5 cm) of water in it

Step 1: The first step is to turn the needle into a magnet. The easiest way to do this is with another magnet -- stroke the magnet along the needle 10 or 20 times. You can use a magnet from the fridge!

Step 2: Place your float in the middle of your dish of water as shown below.



Step 3: Center your magnetic needle on the float. It very slowly will point toward north. You have created a compass!

Here's a link to the full activity with some more detail if you're interested:

<https://adventure.howstuffworks.com/outdoor-activities/hiking/compass2.htm>

