

# CRAFTY TUESDAYS



## CAMERA OBSCURA\*

This craft can count towards the girls' programming! Here's a list of areas that can be completed by making a camera obscura<sup>†</sup>:

- **Guides:** *Picture This interest badge*
- **Pathfinders:** *Camera Crazy module*
- **Rangers:** *Explore Your Creativity challenge*

These instructions were modified from the original posted on the Disney Family Fun<sup>^</sup> webpage for 'How to Make a Camera Obscura'.

## MATERIALS:

- Can with transparent lid (i.e. Pringles can)
- Ruler and Marker
- Craft knife
- Duct tape and Double-sided tape
- Vellum
- Pushpin
- Option: Decorative paper



Photo from Exploratorium.edu

## INSTRUCTIONS:

**1.** Measure 2 inches from the bottom of the can and draw a guiding line around the entire can. Cut along the line using the knife very carefully.

**2.** Trace the can bottom onto a sheet of vellum. Cut out the circle shape.

**3.** Restack the pieces starting with the bottom of the can (open end up), the lid, the vellum circle shape, and finally the top of the can.

**4.** Tape up the seam with tape to ensure no light can come in. Use the pushpin to make a small hole in the center of the can's bottom.

**5.** Option: roll the can up in decorative paper, or decorate the outside.

Now, hold up the *camera obscura* to one eye and gaze at a bright scene (sunlight works best). To block out light, use one hand to cup the viewer to your eye.

\*Obscura in Latin means 'dark chamber'. In a camera obscura, the image appears upside down.

<sup>†</sup> Check the program requirements to determine which ones are a good fit.

<sup>^</sup> <http://familyfun.go.com/crafts/how-to-make-a-camera-obscura-841057/>