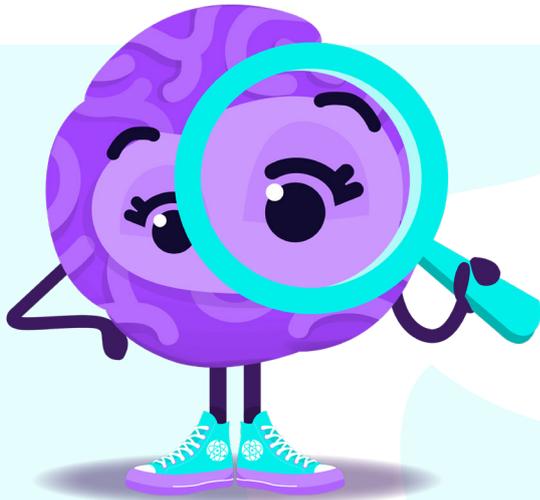




MAKE YOUR OWN FLOATING PRESENT



WHAT YOU NEED

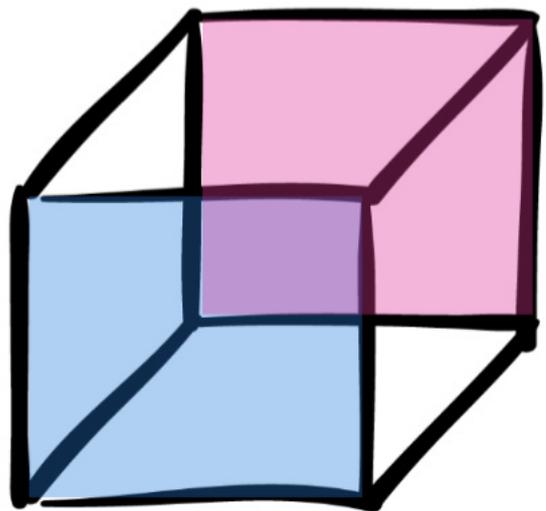
- > A floating present print-out
- > Coloured pens or pencils
- > Scissors
- > Glue Stick
- > Straw

THE SCIENCE

Our brains are always making assumptions, or guesses about the world around us. Sometimes, there are two possible ways we can see something. For example, in this cube, you can see either the blue side as the front, or the pink side.

When this happens, your brain decides for you. In this case, no one option is more likely than the other, so most people see the cube switching back and forth. The cube you made is a bit different. Most presents have corners that stick out, so your brain knows that this is the most likely option. So as soon as it is possible that you could be holding a present that sticks out, that's what you see. If you change the angle of the cube, it is clear that it sticks inwards, and your brain can no longer make that assumption, so it goes back to seeing the real cube.

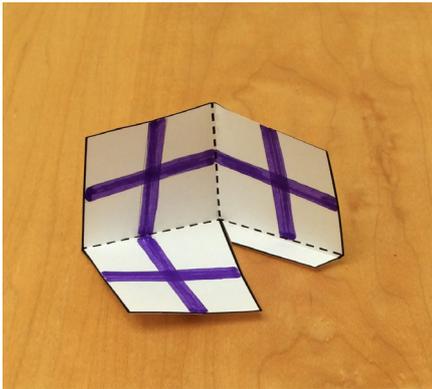
Pretty amazing, right?!





MAKE YOUR OWN FLOATING PRESENT

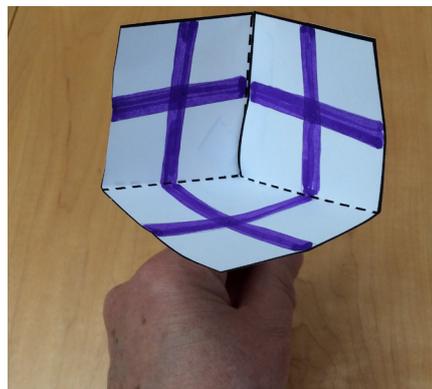
HOW TO



- 1 Colour in the present however you like.
- 2 Carefully cut along the thick, solid black lines of the present.
- 3 Fold along each of the dotted lines a few times to make a crease.
- 4 Fold the present so the flap is on the outside, and the cube is concave- this means the corner should be sticking inward, not outward like on a normal present. Make sure the crease is nice and sharp.

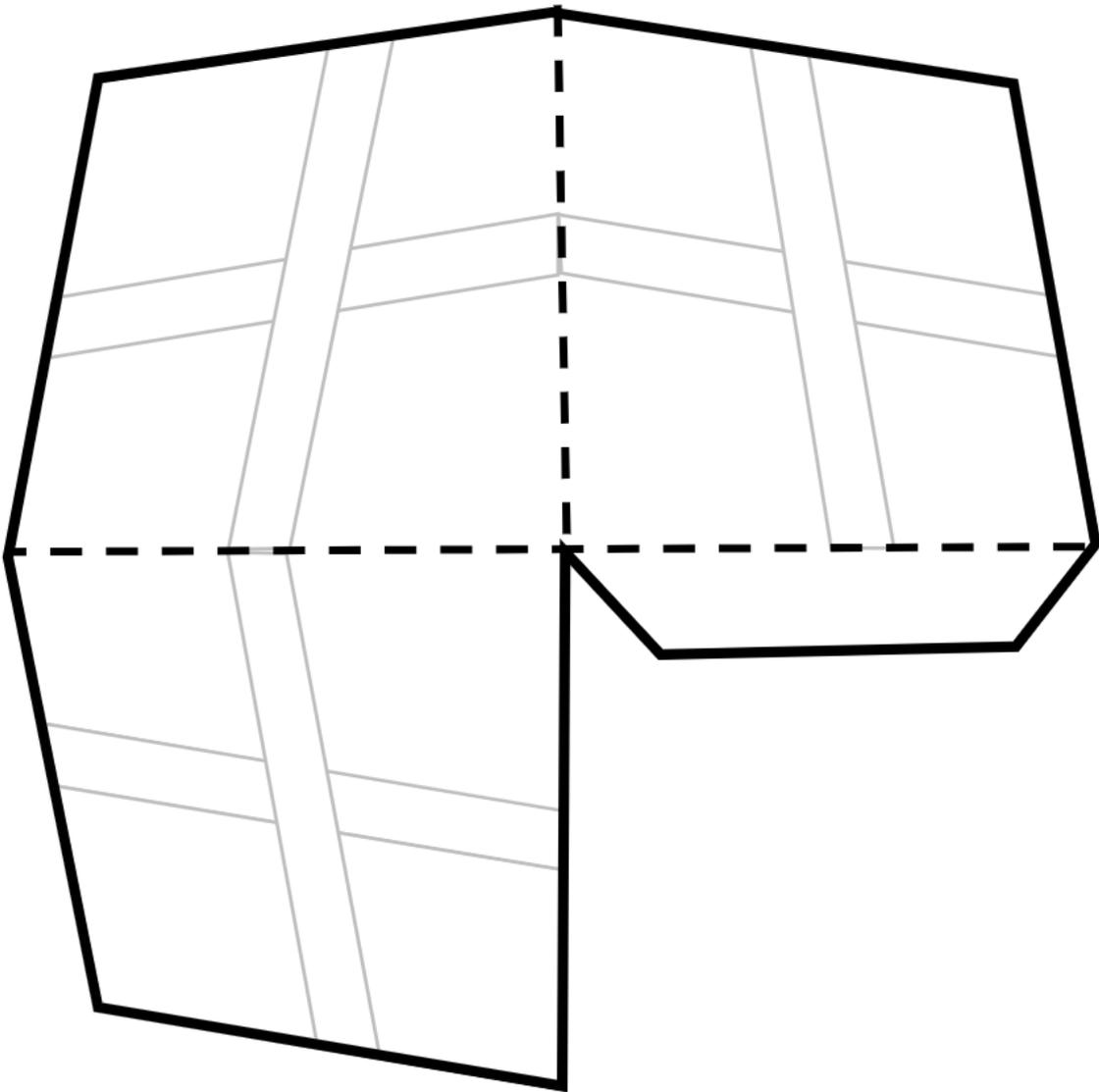


- 5 Glue the flap in position.
- 6 Cut along the solid lines of the handle.
- 7 Fold along each dotted line, as before.
- 8 Fold the rectangle along the lines to make a triangular tube. The fourth side, marked with an x, should overlap the first. Stick this side down to secure your handle.



- 9 Cut slits about 2cm down from one end of the handle, and fold the flaps created outwards. Stick the flaps onto the back of your cube.
- 10 Hold the cube by the handle, and move it around slowly. When it gets to the right angle, it will appear to float!
- 11 You might find it works better if you relax your eyes, and look past the present, at something in the distance. You can try holding it at different distances too- does it work better when it is closer to you or further away?

PRINT ME



Handle

