

Tools and Materials Required

- Toilet paper roll
- Mirror card
- Scissors
- Tape
- White card
- Bendy straw
- Wrapping paper
- Glue stick
- Paint/markers

Directions

- First, decorate the outside of your toilet paper roll. Leave to dry, if required.
- Cut your mirror card: it should be the length of your toilet roll and 11.5 cm wide. Fold into three x 3.5cm strips with a 1cm excess (it may help to measure and score it first). Roll into a triangular tube, tape in place and slide into the toilet roll.
- Cut the top off the straw, including the bendy section. Tape the piece with the bendy section to one end of your toilet roll, with the bendy part hanging over the end of the roll.
- Trace a 5cm diameter circle onto your cardstock. Use a sharp pencil to poke a small hole in the middle of the circle. Decorate your circle (we suggest some wrapping paper collage).
- Push the bendy end of the straw through the hole in your circle (the decoration should face towards the roll). The ridges on the bendy part of the straw should hold the circle in place.
- Look inside and spin for patterns!

Notes

- Cutting and scoring should be done by an adult or under adult supervision.

STEM Facts

Kaleidoscopes have been around since the early 1800s. The internal mirrors bounce light off each other, creating amazing mirrored patterns. As the circle rotates, the designs move and new patterns are created.

