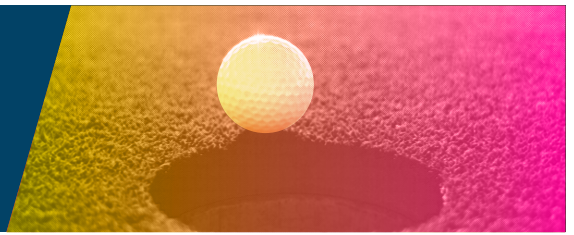


CURIOSITY AT HOME

HOME MINI GOLF

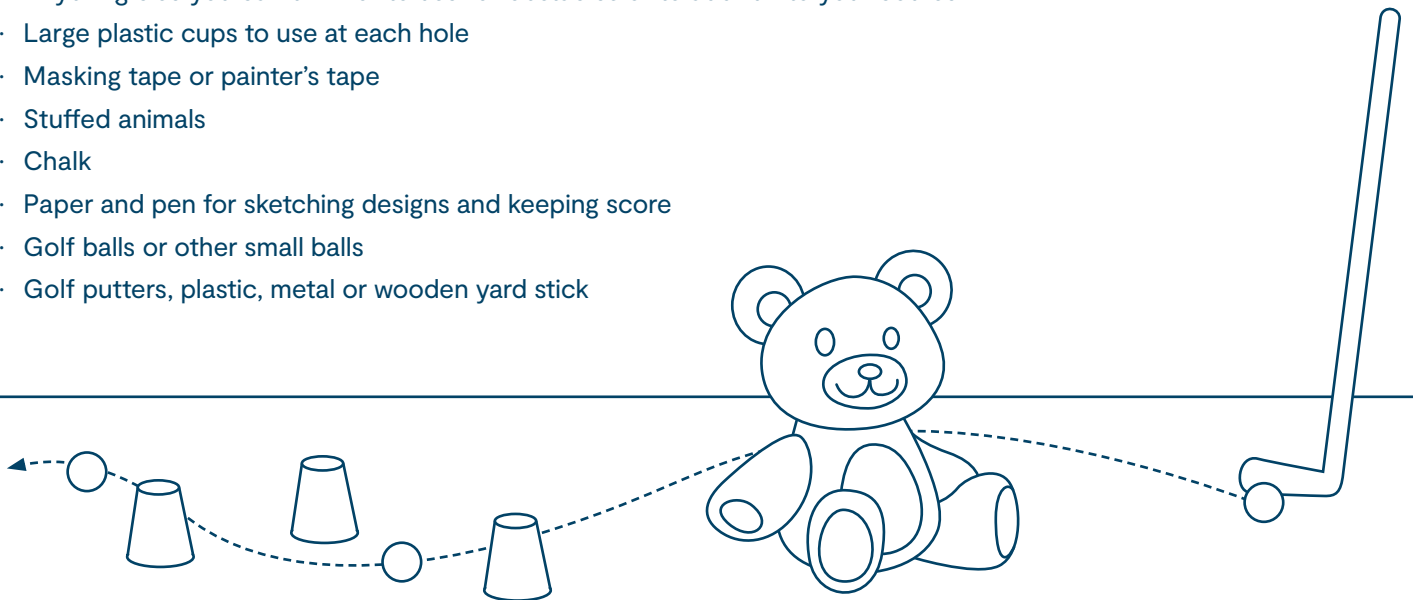


Want an easy and fun activity to tee off with your family? Make a mini-golf course using everyday household items such as cereal boxes, toys and stuffed animals to play in your home or yard.

Golf is a sport where players hit a small ball with a club in an attempt to get it into a series of holes in the least number of shots. Miniature or mini golf focuses on making short shots. It's frequently 9 holes instead of the traditional 18. It's made more fun by adding colored golf balls and outlandish obstacles, sometimes featuring moving pieces to challenge the golfers.

MATERIALS

- Cereal boxes
- Soda cartons
- Any other containers that a golf ball can fit through
- Food cans for obstacles
- Books or cardboard for ramps
- Musical instruments
- Yoga mat for making hills
- Anything else you can think of to use for obstacles or to add fun to your course
- Large plastic cups to use at each hole
- Masking tape or painter's tape
- Stuffed animals
- Chalk
- Paper and pen for sketching designs and keeping score
- Golf balls or other small balls
- Golf putters, plastic, metal or wooden yard stick



Experiment continued on next page...



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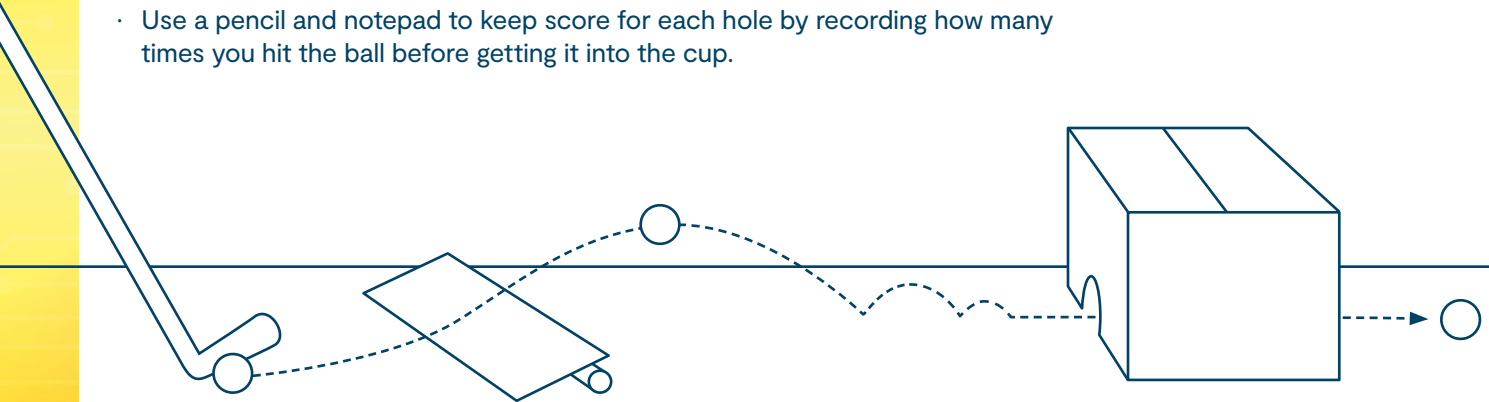
CURIOSITY AT HOME

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PROCEDURE

- Design your mini golf course by sketching out a few ideas. Most mini golf courses have 9 holes. They start out simple with the first few holes and gradually get more elaborate. A simple hole in the middle of the course can be added for a break. The final hole should be the most elaborate of all.
- Think about what features or obstacles you'll add. Some examples are; musical sounds, a moving object you have to go through, cool or unusual structures, tunnels and hills.
- Will it have a theme? Some courses have animal, historical, geographical, current events or media as themes.
- Start building your course. Use cardboard for slopes or ramps. The 9 holes can be made out of plastic cups laid on their sides, taped to the floor at the rim of the cup. A yoga mat with a pillow under it can make an excellent hill. Tunnels can be made out of 2 food cans, placed side by side with a box or book stacked on top of them. A towel or shag rug can represent an obstacle or trap to avoid. Stuffed animals placed near each hole can add interest and be a fun theme. A toy xylophone or hanging bells in the middle of the course can add a fun musical touch.
- Use a pencil and notepad to keep score for each hole by recording how many times you hit the ball before getting it into the cup.



EXPLORE MORE

What other ideas do you have for a mini-golf course design? What other themes can you use? What items would contribute toward making a more fun course?

- What other items could you use to make a more fun/easy/hard course?
- Design and build kinetic or motorized obstacles to your course.
- Design and build musical obstacles to your course.

Experiment continued on next page...



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K-2 GRADE EXPLORATION

- What worked well with your mini-golf course?
- What didn't work well with your mini-golf course?
- What other ideas do you have to improve your mini-golf course design?
- What other themes can you use?
- What other items could you use to make a more fun/easy/hard course?



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3–5 GRADE EXPLORATION

- What other ideas do you have to improve your mini-golf course design?
- What other themes can you use?
- What other items could you use to make a more fun/easy/hard course?
- Design and build kinetic or motorized obstacles to your course.
- Design and build musical obstacles to your course.



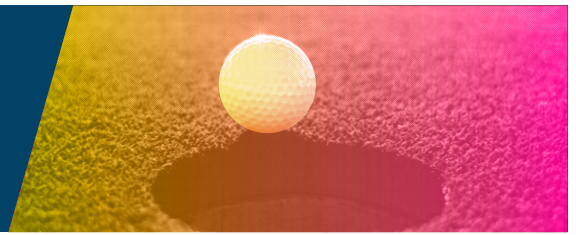
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6–8 GRADE EXPLORATION

- What other ideas do you have to improve your mini-golf course design?
- What other themes can you use?
- What other items could you use to make a more fun/easy/hard course?
- Design and build kinetic or motorized obstacles to your course.
- Design and build musical obstacles to your course.



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