



WHY DO PINECONES OPEN AND CLOSE?

Explore these sweet little seed dispensers with this cool experiment!

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Pinecones
- Glass bowls or jars
- Tongs
- Hot and cold water
- Baking sheet



HOW TO DO IT:

1. Head outside and gather some pinecones! Did you know that pinecones come from a variety of trees? Pine trees, spruces and firs, just to name a few. Use a field guide and see if you can match up cones with the trees they come from!
2. Once you have your cones, head inside to get started on science. First, make some observations and predictions. What do the cones look like now? Were they open or closed when you collected them? What was the weather like when you collected the pinecones?
3. Grab a couple glass bowls or jars. Fill one with hot water and one with cold water. What do you think will happen when you put the pinecones in the water?
4. Put the pinecones in the water and observe what happens! Place on the baking sheet to dry and watch what happens next!



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