

Station 4: Making a Compass



Materials:

- small paper clip
- overhead transparency with compass design
- Pyrex baking dish and water

Directions:



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1. Cut out a circle around the compass design.
2. Unfold a paper clip so that it is a long straight wire
3. Stroke in one direction one end of the paperclip with the North pole of a magnet
4. Stroke in one direction, the other end of the paperclip with the South pole of the magnet. Color this end of the paperclip with a red Sharpie pen.
5. Fill the pyrex baking dish with water
6. Float your cut out compass transparency in the center of the pyrex dish
7. Set the paperclip on the transparency with the red end lined up with the North marking on the transparency.
8. Wait a bit until the transparency stops turning. Your compass should now be pointing North!

