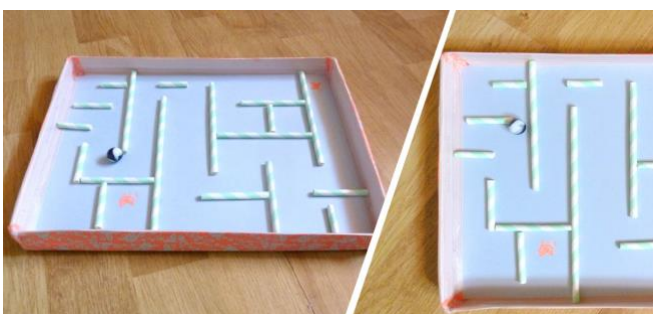# A-maze-ing Marble Mazes

You will need
- Paper Drinking Straws
- Glue Sticks or Sticky Tape
- A4 Paper or Card
- Shallow Cardboard Box
- Marbles

Before you begin
Prepare your cardboard box by cutting it down to make the base and sides for your maze – take time to find the right cardboard box for the job.

Have a go

1. Have a think about the maze you want to create.
2. Cut different lengths of straws (and pieces of cardboard) to make the walls for the maze – think about making short and long channels, and don't forget the dead ends! You should test that the marbles will fit through the space between the walls before you stick anything down (with glue or tape).
3. Challenge your family to try your maze.
   They can only move the marble by tilting the box to make the marble travel around the maze.
4. You can make the challenge harder by asking two people to work together, each holding the maze at the same time and working as a team to tilt the maze to move the marble.
5. You can make it into a "time trial" to see who can solve the maze is the fastest time.

Additional Information
Mazes were sometimes created in large gardens, a maze nearby is at Somerleyton Hall and a really famous one is at Hampton Court near London.

This maze is at Traquair Castle near Edinburgh.

Reflection
Parts of this activity required you to plan very carefully to make the best maze possible, thinking ahead to the end result:
- How did you decide what pattern your maze was to follow?
- Would you do it differently next time and why?

Thinking about the other people that tried to solve your maze:
- Did they find it easy or hard to do?
- If they worked in pairs, were they both good team players?

Safety
Glue and solvents – make sure you use glue in a well-ventilated room and be aware of medical conditions which could be affected by glue or solvent use and make adjustments as needed.

Take care when using scissors or ask for help from an adult.

All Activities are taken from the Scout Association's Great IN Doors programme.