



ASTRONAUT GLOVE BOX

Create a glove box to study rocks like an astronaut.

Materials

- Large cardboard box
- Utility knife or scissors (adults only)
- Rubber gloves
- Duct tape
- Magnifying glass
- Small ruler
- Rocks of various sizes and shapes
- Plastic wrap
- Clipboard and paper
- Pen or pencil



Procedure

The first two steps should be performed by an adult.

- Using a knife or scissors, remove the lid flaps from the cardboard box.
- Cut two round holes on both sides of the box - large enough for children to fit their hands through but small enough that the gloves can be taped to them.
- Place the gloves through the holes you've cut, then use duct tape to form a complete seal on the outside of the box where the gloves went in. Make sure your child can still fit their hands into the gloves.
- Place the rocks, magnifying glass, and ruler into the box.
- Cover the top of the box with plastic wrap and seal it with duct tape.

Results

You have made a protective glove box to study rocks.

Why?

Using a sealed box keeps human hands away from objects that may be harmful to us, and it also protects objects that may be damaged if touched directly by human hands. Scientists who study Moon rocks use a special sealed box to handle, measure and perform tests on specimens. Scientists living and working on the International Space Station use glove boxes for all kinds of experiments in space.