

MAKE A KALEIDOSCOPE

When you look into a mirror, you see a reflection of yourself and the world around you. You are able to see reflections because light bounces off a smooth, shiny surface and back to your eyes. Most mirrors are flat and reflect objects almost exactly as they appear in real life.

But what would you see if you looked at the reflection of a mirror, in another mirror? Let's make a kaleidoscope and find out!

The word kaleidoscope comes from three Greek words: *kalos* meaning beautiful, *eidos* meaning form, and *skopein* meaning to view.

A kaleidoscope has multiple mirrors or shiny surfaces that reflect one another. When you look through one end, you can see beautiful colors and ever-changing shapes created by the reflections.

MATERIALS

The cardboard tube from a toilet paper roll, colored paper, scissors, aluminum foil or mirrored paper, cardstock (like an index card), glue, tape, and a ruler

INSTRUCTIONS



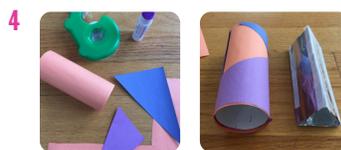
1 Cut the cardstock into three equal strips about four inches long and one and a half inches wide. Toilet paper rolls vary in size; your strips should be about the length and width of your cardboard tube.



2 Tape or glue the foil or mirrored paper to the cardstock strips, making sure the shinier side faces out. Keep the shiny surface as flat as possible for the best results.



3 Arrange the strips into the shape of a triangle with the foil or mirrored paper facing inward. Tape the triangle together so it stands up.



4 Decorate the outside of the tube with colored paper and glue or tape it in place. Get creative: use multiple colors or draw your own design.



5 When you've finished decorating your tube, slide the triangle inside it.

Now your kaleidoscope is complete. Try it out! Go with a parent or family member to a safe place outdoors like the park, your yard, or the BMA Sculpture Garden.

The BMA Sculpture Garden is open Wednesday–Sunday, weather permitting.