

# WORKSHOP EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Built by The Home Depot Kids Workshops

## Leprechaun Trap: Rainbow Path Lure

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### CONNECT.

According to legend, a leprechaun can often be found at the end of a rainbow. But how could you use that knowledge to guide one into your trap? Light can bend and scatter in just the right way to create a rainbow, and you can use this science to your advantage.

### INVESTIGATE.

Rainbows are created when light bends, or refracts, as it passes through materials like water or glass. The bending separates the light into different colors. But how does the type of material affect the way light bends?

1. Explore the PhET [Bending Light](#) simulation to observe how light refracts when passing into water or glass. Notice how the angle of bending changes with different materials.
2. Think about which materials in the simulation created the biggest bend and the clearest separation of colors.

### INNOVATE.

Now it is time to create your rainbow path that will lead directly to your leprechaun trap.

#### You'll need:

- Your Leprechaun Trap
- Clear glass of water
- CD, DVD, or small mirror
- Flashlight or access to sunlight
- White paper
- Prism (optional)

1. Place the glass of water in a sunbeam so the light passes through it and lands on your white paper. Move the paper until you see rainbow colors appear.
2. Try the same experiment using a flashlight instead of sunlight. Compare the results.
3. Hold a CD, DVD, or small mirror so that light reflects off its surface onto the paper. Look closely for rainbow streaks.
4. Test other combinations, such as using both the glass of water and the CD together, to see if the rainbow becomes brighter or wider.
5. Position your chosen rainbow-making setup so the rainbow path leads directly to the entrance of your trap.

Share a photo of your Leprechaun Trap with its colorful rainbow path leading to the entrance using [#kidsworkshopexplore](#).



Did you know that **Electricians** play a crucial role in bringing light to our homes, businesses and public spaces? They are the professionals who handle all aspects of electrical systems, and a major part of that work is related to lighting.

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