

DO TRY THIS AT HOME

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Featuring: **Marvin and Milo**

What you need: • A drinking straw
• Plastic bottle cap • A Jumper • Your hands

Hey Milo, I bet you can't make this straw spin without touching it!

Place the plastic bottle cap on a table. Rub the straw with a jumper several times in the same direction....

...and then carefully balance the straw on the cap. Bring one hand close to the straw, but don't touch it.

The straw will start to spin! Experiment with where to put your hand to get the best response. Does one end of the straw respond better than the other? Does using two hands rather than one make a difference?

Rubbing the straw makes it negatively charged and this induces a positive charge in your hand. The attraction between the straw and your hand makes the straw follow your hand as you move it.

Vic Le Billon