Curiosity Guide #201
Vision
Accompanies Curious Crew, Season 2, Episode 1 (#201)

Strings under Your Nose
Investigation #4

Description
Two strings or one? Investigate how your eyes work together.

Materials
• Arms-length piece of string

Procedure
1) Cut a piece of string the length of your arm.
2) Hold one end of the string under your nose. Stretch the other end of the string straight out in front of your face.
3) Look straight off the end of your nose at the string. Describe what you see.
4) Look straight ahead. Close one eye at a time. Then open them both.
5) Did you see 2 strings? Did the lines cross or merge into one? Why?

My Results
Explanation
The human eye is separated by about six centimeters. People use both eyes to establish two perspectives of the same object. This is called binocular vision. In this investigation, seeing the string from two different eyes gives the illusion that the string starts as two different strings. At some point, the two strings will seem to merge into one. That is the point at which the eyes focus into a single image.

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