



## Curiosity Guide #201

### Vision

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

### Floating Finger

Investigation #9

#### Description

Can you make a finger float? Find out how!

#### Materials

- Index fingers

#### Procedure

- 1) Stare at a distant object.
- 2) Touch the tips of your index fingers together. Hold them in front of your face in the line of vision, but continue to look at the distant object.
- 3) Slowly pull your fingers slightly apart.
- 4) Do you see a floating finger?
- 5) Gently wiggle the ends of your fingers and make the floating finger dance.
- 6) If you look directly at it, the illusion stops, so keep your gaze on the distant object.

## My Results

### Explanation

This illusion is a result of an overlapped image from the two different eye perspectives and the blurriness of an up-close object when looking far away. However, if we shift our eye attention to the close fingers, our eyes correctly focus and interpret the two fingers.

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Crew learned!



*Curious Crew is a production of Michigan State University.*

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