

Full Cups, Empty Cups Magic Trick

This fun mind bender is more of a joke than a magic trick but it will definitely entertain and fascinate classmates. It uses simple materials you may already have around your home.

Remember, it's always a good idea to practice at home first!

Suggested Materials:

- ❖ 6 x clear plastic drinking cups
- ❖ Food colouring
- ❖ Water

Suggested Instructions:



Step 1: At home, place your 6 cups side-by-side in a row.



Step 2: Mix your water and food colouring together and fill the first 3 cups in the row with coloured water. The next 3 cups in the row remain empty.



Step 3: Tell your "audience" that by moving only one cup in the entire row you can change the pattern in the row from 3 full cups and 3 empty cups to 1 full cup, 1 empty cup, 1 full cup, 1 empty cup, 1 full cup, 1 empty cup. How is this possible? Are they bamboozled?



Step 4: Now pick up the second cup in the row, pour its contents into the fifth cup and put the second cup back in its original position. You've done it! By moving only cup you have created the 1 full cup, 1 empty cup pattern! Mind bending and funny!



Step 5: At school, repeat Step 1 to Step 4.