

DO TRY THIS AT HOME

issue #33

Featuring: **Marvin and Milo**

What you need: • Uncooked rice • A pencil
• A large empty jar with a narrow neck

Today I'm going to show you how to lift this jar up using just a pencil and some rice!

Fill the jar up to the brim with uncooked rice.

(Make sure you have a jar which narrows towards the top.)

Push the pencil right into the rice.

Then, alternating between shallow and deep stabs, stab the rice repeatedly. It could take about 40 stabs, but you'll start to feel the pencil gripping the rice.

When you feel a firm grip, carefully lift up the jar by the pencil.

As you push it in, the pencil forces the grains sideways but they fall back into the gap as you pull it out. The rice becomes more and more tightly packed until the friction between the rice and the pencil is so great you can lift the jar.

Vic Le Billon