

Bionic body parts

This activity is a 'UMA' from the Skills For My Future (light pink) theme. It counts for 60 minutes.

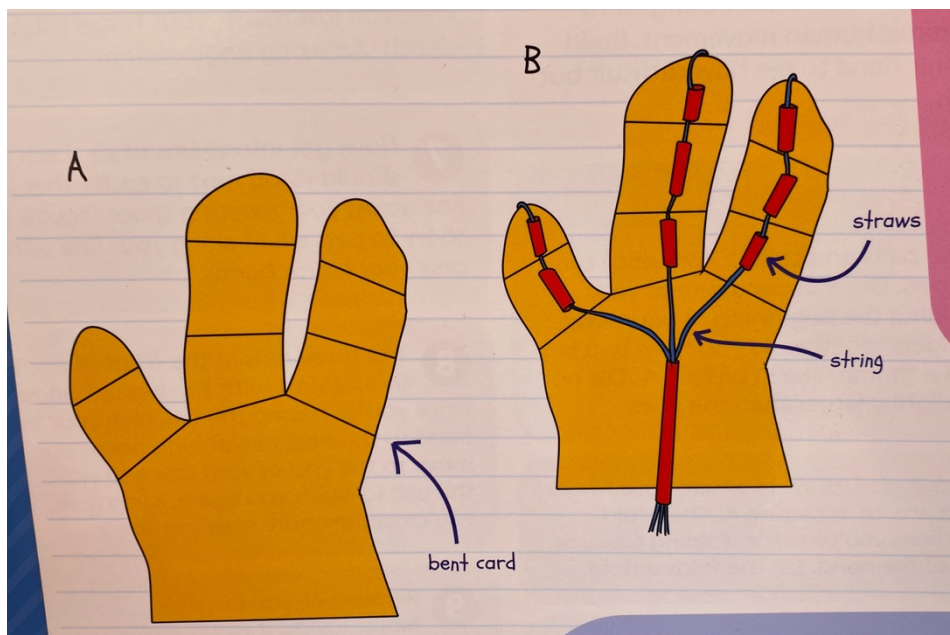
Aim of activity: Ever thought an extra hand might be useful? Try building your own!

What you'll need:

- Sticky tape
- A sheet of A4 card (the stiffer the better)
- A pen / pencil
- Scissors
- 3 straws
- 3 lengths of 40cm string

What to do:

1. On the piece of card, draw around one of your hands including the beginning of your wrist. Put your fingers together so you have two big fingers and a thumb, like in picture A. Cut out the shape slightly larger than the lines.



2. On the card, draw in where your finger joints are, as in picture A. Then fold along the lines you have made, folding towards the palm of the hand. Let the folds unfold.
3. Take a straw and cut it up into pieces smaller than the size of each section of your finger. Stick them in place like in picture B. Remember, if your straw pieces are too big, your hand wont bend properly.
4. Cut a longer length of string and stick it on the wrist section, as in picture B.
5. Take a length of string and secure it at the tip of each finger. Thread it through the line of straws and then through the wrist straw, like in picture B.

6. Tie all of the threads together at the bottom of the wrist. If you pull the string, your bionic fingers should clench. That's engineering!
7. What can you pick up or hold using your bionic hand?