



Smithsonian Associates

THE CAMERA OBSCURA: HANDS-ON HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY

with Patricia Howard

Supplies to make a camera obscura in a room in your house (must have a window):

- Room with a window
- Black Plastic, enough to cover the window
- Duct Tape
- X-acto or utility knife
- Quarter
- Optional: a helpful person to walk outdoors outside the window and to appear upside down on the opposite wall (for added fun!)
- Cell phone to share images of your results

Supplies to Make a Portable Camera Obscura with a Cardboard box:

- x-acto knife
- a few sheets of white paper (8.5" x 11")
- One piece (approximately 5"x 5") of aluminum foil
- a sewing needle, large size or a push pin
- electrical or duct tape
- scissors
- cell phone to share images of your results
- The cardboard box should be able to be closed on all sides.
- When it is fitted over your head, it should have at least 5" of room to spare from the top of your head to the top of the box and at least 12 inches between your eyes and the front of the box.
- Towel to around your neck and to block light

