

Making a Cartesian Diver to Investigate Buoyancy

1. Get a pen lid - if it has a hole in the pointed end seal this with some tape or plasticine
 2. Fill a plastic drink bottle right to the top and place it in a tray or bowl to catch spilled water
 3. Stick a small lump of plasticine to the 'spike' of the pen lid
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Resources

2L plastic bottles

Tray or bowl

Pen lid

Plasticine



TIP
 Start with **small** amounts of plasticine - if the lid sinks straight away, it is hard to get out of the bottle

4. Place the lid in the mouth of the bottle and add more plasticine a small amount at a time until it floats **JUST** below the water level
5. Top the bottle up **right to the top** with water and screw the lid on very tightly
6. **Squeeze the bottle hard and enjoy!**

https://youtu.be/dGB-TWDU_jM

Ocean gliders are used by scientists to 'fly' through the ocean adjusting buoyancy to go up and down and record data under the surface

