STRONG AS A DRINKING STRAW

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The brief

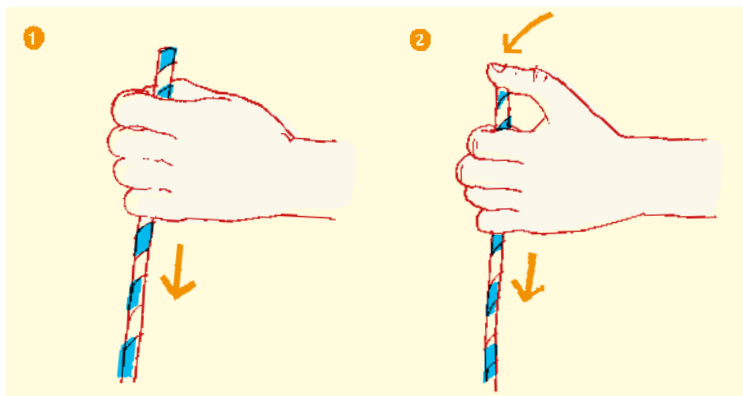Use a drinking straw to pierce through a raw potato.

The method

1. Hold the straw by its sides, without covering the hole at the top and try quickly stabbing the potato.

2. Repeat the experiment with a new straw but this time place your thumb over the top, covering the hole.

Materials

Two stiff drinking straws

A firm, raw potato

How does it work?

Covering the top of the straw with your thumb traps air inside, forcing it to compress as you stab the straw through the potato skin. This creates enough rigidity within the straw to pierce the potato.