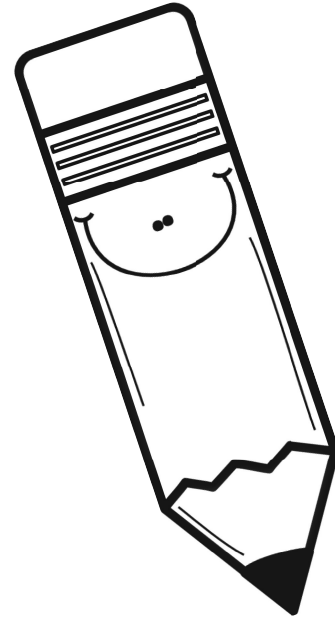




Balancing Pencil STEM CHALLENGE



Objective: Balance a pencil vertically on a craft stick



Materials:

- #2 pencils
- Clothespins
- Pipe cleaners
- Craft sticks
- Tape

Procedure:

1. Tape your craft stick so that it's half on a flat surface and half off.
2. Challenge the students to balance a pencil on the stick.
3. Challenge them to do it with a sharpened pencil and with an unsharpened pencil.
4. After trying for a while, let the students experiment with the clothespins and pipe cleaners. Each student will need 2 clothespins and 1 pipe cleaner.
5. Attach the center of the pipe cleaner around the pencil and attach a clothespin to each loose end of the pipe cleaner. The balanced weight will hold the pencil up, both sharpened and unsharpened.

