



Mystery Bag Challenge

One of the most popular activities at Vaughan Public Libraries for school-age children is the Mystery Bag Challenge. Children receive a paper bag full of a variety of materials and a challenge card. Using only the bag of materials and glue, children need to complete the challenge!

You can make a Mystery Bag at home!

Gather some materials that you have around the house. Some ideas for materials include:

- string
- twine
- yarn
- paper towel/kleenex
- piece of tin foil
- piece of printer paper
- construction paper
- wrapping paper
- tissue paper
- paper clip
- paper straw
- pipe cleaner
- pom poms
- toothpicks
- popsicle sticks
- elastic bands

Have some building materials available including something for colouring like markers or crayons, child-safe scissors and something to attach pieces like glue or tape.

Give the person being challenged a variety of materials and a challenge. Here are some samples or you can make your own:

- A dinosaur has hatched in your backyard and your parents say you can't bring it in the house. Build the dinosaur a home with the materials in your mystery bag.
- You are hungry but don't want to leave the couch where you're reading a great book. Build a reaching device that you can use to grab a snack!
- Find the heaviest book at your house. Build a structure that can support the weight of that book!
- Create your own challenge!