

Skewer through a Balloon

Instructions

Materials:

Balloon
Wooden skewer
Paraffin wax

Set Up:

1. Roll the wooden skewer on a block of paraffin wax. Be sure to wax the tip of the skewer as well.
2. Blow up a balloon so that it's about 70-80% inflated.

Demo Procedure:

1. Gently push the tip of the wooden skewer against the thick end of the balloon, opposite of the end where you tied off the balloon.
2. Rolling the skewer slowly helps the tip to push against the balloon and stretch out the polymer.
3. There is a slight give when the tip breaks through into the balloon. Continue to slide the skewer toward the tied end of the balloon.
4. The tip of the skewer is going to stretch out the balloon as it tries to push through the other end. With gentle pressure the tip will break through and the skewer can continue to slide through without breaking the balloon.

Troubleshooting:

- This demonstration works best with new balloons that are not overly inflated.