



Young Skeptics

Activity 7 · Bending Spoons With Mind Power? · Worksheet



Name: _____ Date: _____



Detective question: If the mind can't bend metal, how could a spoon *seem* to bend?



Predict, test, explain. Guess first, then try it!

	Test	My guess	What happened	Was I right?
1	Part 1, hands tipped: did it look as if the spoon bent?	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
2	Part 2, Way A: did anyone see the moment I bent it?	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
3	Part 2, Way B: did the pre-bent spoon look straight at first?	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
4	Part 3, my friend's own marked spoon: did it bend?	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No



Explain: In Part 1, what did the audience's brain "fill in" that wasn't really there?



Look closely: In Way A, what did you say or do to make everyone look away? Why did it work?



Think like a scientist: Why should the person testing a "power" bring and mark their **own** spoon?

Grown-ups: Part 2 needs an old spoon, with permission; don't bend it back and forth repeatedly. Based on the methods of stage magicians and James Randi · charvaka.net