



HARD TO CHANGE

A Neat Trick

WHAT DO YOU NEED?

- A plastic pop bottle with the top part removed
- An index card
- A quarter



WHAT DO YOU DO?

1. Place the index card on top of your pop bottle.
2. Place a quarter on the index card.
3. Flick the card with your finger so that the card flies out from under the quarter. The quarter should fall into the bottle.
4. Now invite someone else to try it. Say that they can have the quarter if they can flick the card and make the quarter fly across the room. Don't tell them exactly how it's done. It's fun to watch them figure it out!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

You demonstrated inertia, a property of all matter. Inertia is matter's tendency to remain at rest (even when the matter is made of billions and billions of moving molecules).

Source: Brunelle, Lynn. Pop Bottle Science. New York: Workman Publishing Company, Inc., 2004.

