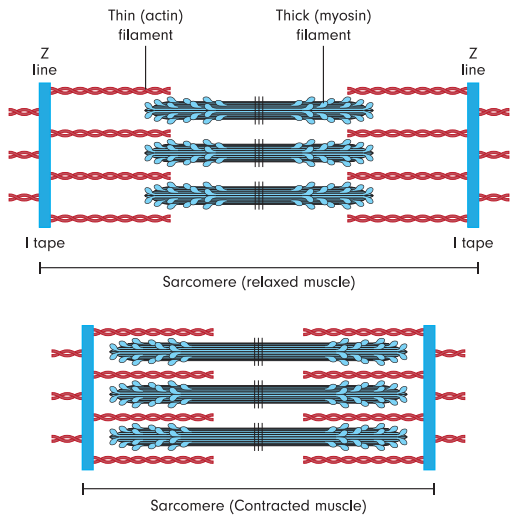


FUNCTION OF MUSCLE PROTEINS

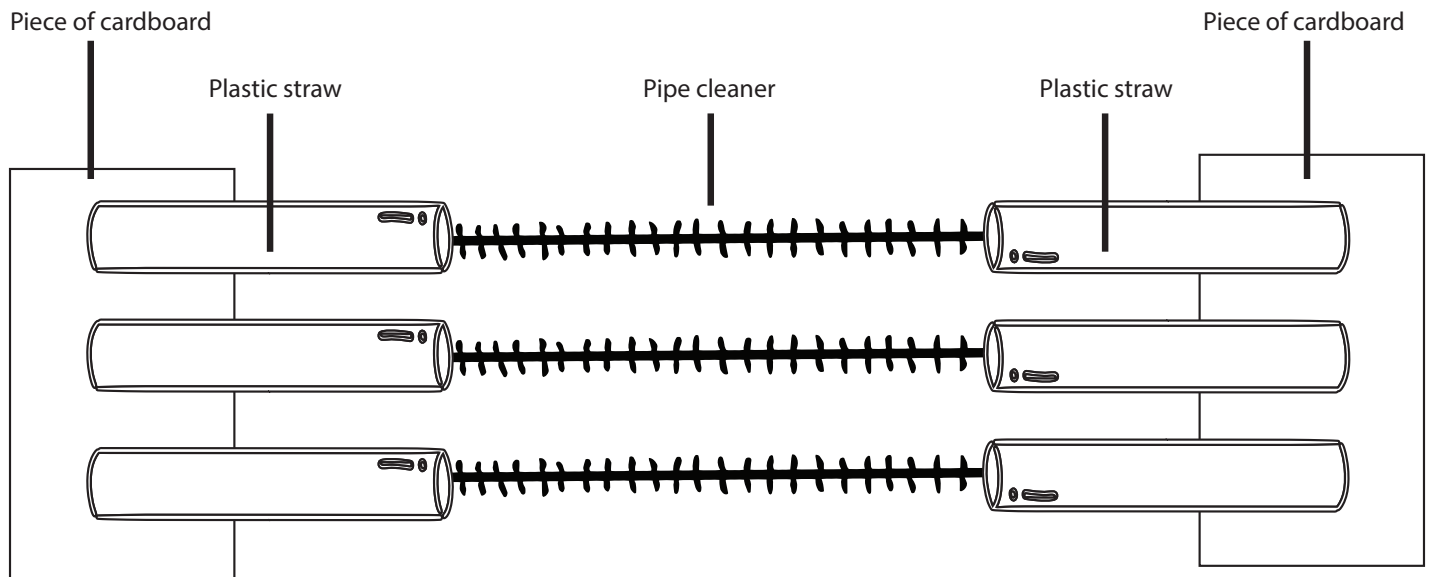


This activity helps students understand the interaction of the proteins actin and myosin in muscle fibers.

Materials:

- Two small pieces of cardboard
- 2 wide straws cut into 3 pieces
- 1 pipe cleaners cut into 3 pieces
- Tape
- Scissors

Assemble the materials as shown in the diagram below.



The plastic straw represents the ACTIN while the pipe cleaner represents the MYOSIN.

To 'contract' the muscle fiber move the two sides of the plastic straws over the pipe cleaner so that they come closer together.

To 'relax' the muscle fiber move the two sides of the plastic straw farther apart.

