

The Touching Pencils

Four ping pong balls can be placed so that each ball touches the other three. Five quarters can be arranged so that each coin touches the other four.

Is it possible to place six same-sized pencils so that each touches the other five? The pencils must not be bent or broken.

Adapted from puzzle #10, The Touching Cigarettes, in Martin Gardner, *My Best Mathematical & Logic Puzzles*, 1994

