AND NOT A DROP TO DRINK

Bet you can’t suck water from a jar!

THE SETUP
Make a hole large enough for a straw in the screw top of a jar. Insert a straw and seal the connection with clay or putty. Fill the jar to the brim with water. Screw on the cover with the straw in place. Now try to drink the water through the straw!

INSIDER INFORMATION
In this stunt you can make a partial vacuum in your mouth. But you won’t suck up the water because the surface of the water is not in contact with the atmosphere, so no air pressure can push the water into your mouth. A strong mechanical vacuum pump might be able to draw out the water, but the straw would probably collapse first. Your mouth can never create enough suction to win this sucker bet. Soda carry-out containers, the plastic lids with holes in the center, are not airtight. That’s why you can still sip through the straw.