



Nature | Education

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GRAB N' GO ACTIVITY:
What's Up With Wind

OVERVIEW

This experiment is a great place to start for teaching children how the wind works. This easy-to-create demonstration shows exactly how upward movement of warm air creates wind.

MATERIALS:

- Paper
- Pencil
- Thumbtack
- Scissors
- Thread
- Clothing hanger
- A heat source (sun-heated pan, lit table lamp, dryer, etc.)



Submit your work to the Get to Know Contest for a chance to win wild prizes & go to

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to find more free resources and activities

MORE RESOURCES:

- http://www.education.com/activity/article/where_wind_comes_from_fourth/
- Ellen Dean

Ages: 3 - 8

Time: 20 - 30 minutes

PROCEDURE:

- Step 1.** Have the children draw a spiral shape on a piece of paper and cut it out. Help her to poke a hole in the centre of the spiral with a thumbtack.
- Step 2.** They can now push one end of the thread into the hole, tie it and attach the other end to the centre of the clothing hanger.
- Step 3.** Ask her to hold the hanging spiral several inches above a heat source. Watch what happens. Ask them to explain what they see. Did the spiral move?
- Step 4.** Explain to her that when warm air moves upward, it pushed the bottom of the spiral and made it spin. This is the same motion that causes wind. Warm air rises and air pressure under it reduces and cools air nearby to take its place. Wind is the sideways moving of air and is the cause of changing weather patterns!