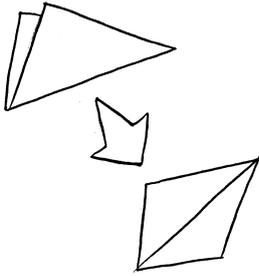


# Pinwheels

Age: Preschool-age (3-4 years)

This activity helps your child's development in this domain: Cognitive

## What You Need:



- 6-inch square piece of paper
- Disposable wooden chopstick or pencil with eraser
- Pushpin or tack
- Jumbo crayons or washable markers
- Scissors

## What To Do:

1. Invite your child to decorate the paper with crayons or markers before assembling your pinwheel.
2. Fold the paper in half diagonally to form a triangle, then in half again to form a smaller triangle.
3. Unfold the paper.
4. Cut two-thirds of the way to the center of the square along each crease line.
5. Bring every other point of the cut paper to the center of the square and overlap them. Push a pin through the four points and the center of the square and poke the pin into one end of a wooden chopstick (or into the side of the eraser on a pencil).
6. Have your child hold the chopstick and move his arm back and forth to make the pin-wheel spin. Or, hold the pinwheel in front of a fan.
7. Ask him questions such as "What makes your pinwheel turn?" "What happens when you move your pinwheel slower or faster?"
8. Talk about how we can feel the wind even though we can't see it.



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VARIATION:

Go outside with him on a windy day. Ask him, "What tells you that it's windy out here?" Point out observations such as the coconut tree branches swaying or small leaves and plumeria blossoms floating in the air. Tell your child to lick his finger and hold it up. Ask him, "Which side of your finger feels cold?" Explain that the cold side tells him which direction the wind is blowing from.

**! Safety Alert:** Adult-size scissors are not safe for young preschoolers. Keep them out of children's reach.

