

# Wind Powered Pinwheel

**Summary:** Moving air is wind. Wind is caused by warm air rising over cool air. You cannot see the wind but you know when it is around. Wind makes things move. A pinwheel will spin as the wind pushes it around. Make your own pinwheel by following these simple directions.

**Estimated Time:** 15 - 20 minutes

## **MATERIALS NEEDED:**

a sharpened pencil  
white construction paper  
a plastic drinking straw  
scissors  
a paper fastener  
crayons, colored pencils or markers



**Safety Notes:** Be sure you have adult supervision during this activity!

## **Procedure:**

1. Print the pinwheel pattern on the last page of these instructions.
2. Cut-out the pinwheel on the solid lines only
3. Color in the squares. Make each square a different color. You can color both sides of the paper if you want. Here are some ideas for different ways to color the squares:
  - a. Color each square with a marker or pencil;
  - b. Paint each square;
  - c. Glue on pictures cut from a magazine into each square. Be sure to glue firmly.
  - d. Allow paint or glue work to dry before proceeding to the next steps.
4. Cut the dotted lines from the four corners to the center circle. Try not to cut into the center circle.
5. Label each line A, B, C and D. Mark on the left side of each cut, as shown.
6. Take edges A, B, C and D in your fingers. Pull these to the center of the square.
7. Place the pin into the middle of the edges A, B, C and D. Push the paper fastener right through the paper, so that each one of these edges sits snugly on top of the other on the fastener. Then push the fastener through the center circle.
8. Make a small hole in the straw. The pencil point also works well to poke a hole into the straw. Carefully push the pencil point through the straw about 1/2 inch from the top.
9. Place the straw on the back side of your pinwheel and push the ends of the fastener through the hole in the straw. Open-up the fastener by flattening the ends in opposite directions.



Now you are ready to try-out your beautiful pinwheel. All you will need is a little bit of wind to make your pinwheel spin round and round. Have fun!

Pinwheel Pattern

