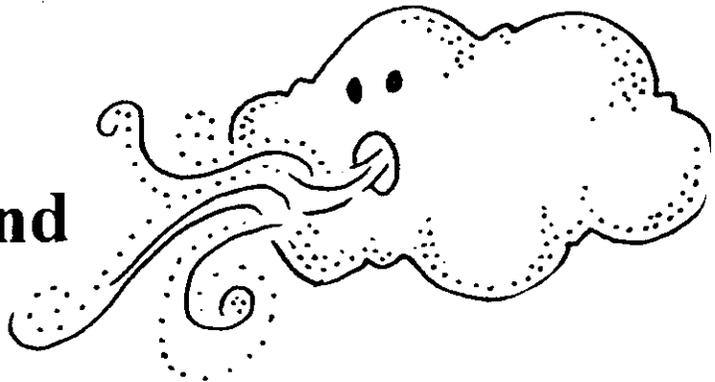


The Wind

Grade K-1



Overview

The students will discuss the wind's energy. They will make kites to experiment with the wind's energy.

Objectives

- To help students understand that energy makes things move.
- To help students understand the wind is a source of energy.
- To help students understand that people use the wind's energy to make things move.

Materials

For the presenter:

- a fan
- a kite, pinwheel, etc. (anything that uses the wind's energy)
- pictures of windmills, kites, sailboats, etc. (things that use the wind's energy)
- a sample of the kite the students will make
- paper punch
- scotch tape

For each student:

- 1 piece of 11 1/2" x 18" colored construction paper, folded
- markers or crayons
- Four - crepe paper streamers 2" x 24" long
- 1 piece of string about 70" long

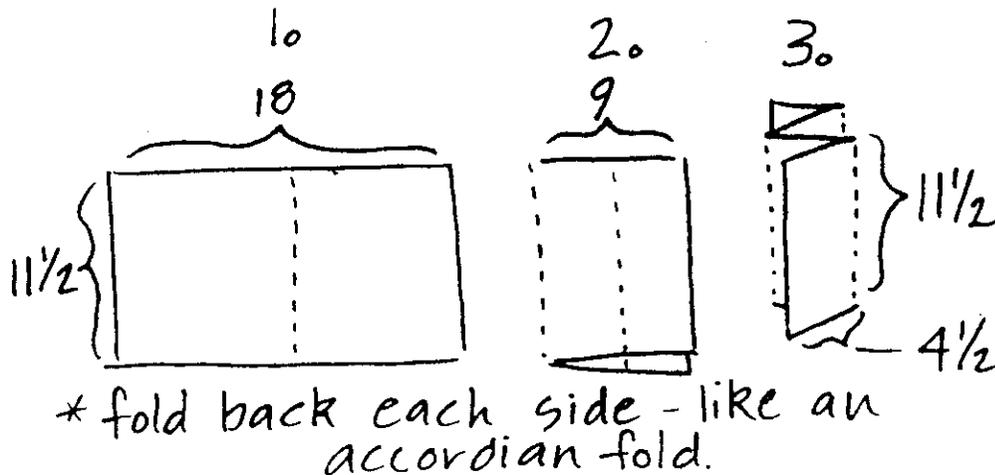
Getting Ready

Activity 1

Put the fan, kite and pictures, etc. on a table in front of the class. Write the words *wind* and *energy* on the chalkboard.

Activity 2:

Fold the 11 1/2" x 18" pieces of paper for the kites (see the example below). If you are using this with older students, they could do the folding themselves. Cut an assortment of 2" x 24" colored crepe paper streamers. Each student will need 4 streamers. Cut enough pieces of 70" long string so each student has one piece. Put the string, crepe paper and the folded 11 1/2" x 18" colored construction paper on a table that is easily accessed by the students. Make sure the students have crayons or markers at their desks to use. Make a sample of the kite the students will make. Use markers or crayons to decorate it.



Procedures

Activity 1: The Wind's Energy

Use the questions below to spark the student's interest and get them thinking about the wind's energy. Start by turning on the fan. Tell the students that this is our inside wind. Put a piece of paper in front of the fan so students can see what happens. Have a student stand in front of the fan. Refer to the word **wind** on the board. Share the objects and pictures with the students as you discuss the wind's energy.

Questions

"What do you know about the wind? How does it feel? What happens when it is windy? Do you like to play in the wind? Do people use the wind for anything (*it moves things*)? When the wind moves things we call it **energy**. Show them the word energy on the board. The wind's energy makes things move. Can you think of ways people use the wind's energy (windmill - for electricity, sailboats, etc.)? Can you think of things you might play with that use the wind's energy?"

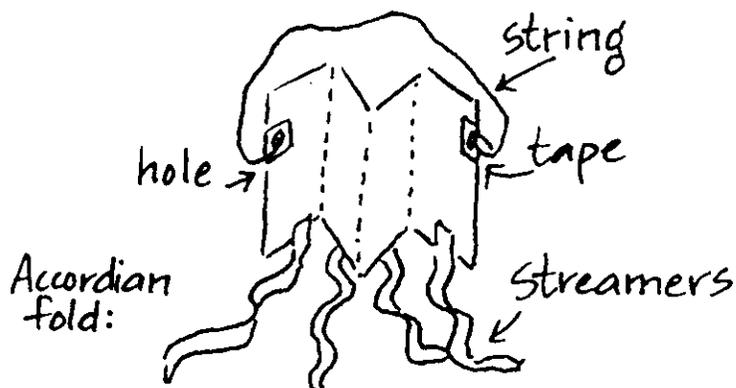
Activity 2: Making Kites

Tell the students that they are going to make a toy that uses the wind's energy. After we are finished making them, we can go out and experiment with them in the wind.

Before handing out any materials, show the students the materials and what the kite will look like when it is finished. Go over the directions for making the kite with the students.

1. Let the students choose 1 piece of folded 11 1/2" x 18" colored construction paper.
2. Have the students color a design on their paper. Refer to the kites you brought to give them some ideas on how they could design their kites.
3. Each child can choose 4 strips of crepe paper and glue them on the bottom of his/her kite(see example below).
4. A volunteer or teacher can help punch holes on the sides of the kite and reinforce with tape (see example below).
5. Let the students attach the string to both sides of their kite.
6. You are ready to fly your kite.
7. If some students are finished early, they may clean up and read a book until everyone is ready to go outside.

When everyone is ready, take the kites outside. Tell the students to run, holding their arms up high above their heads and the kites should fly. If it is a windy day the kites should fly by themselves.



Closure

After the kites are put away, ask the students to whisper to their neighbor how they used the wind's energy? What did the wind's energy do? Have one student share with the whole class.

Clean up

Students are responsible for cleaning up their space before they go outside to fly the kites.