



THAUMATROPES

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- THICK CARD STOCK
 - PENCIL
 - SCISSORS
 - SMALL HOLE PUNCH
 - TWO PIECES OF STRING
 - CRAYONS, MARKERS, PENS, OR PENCILS FOR MAKING YOUR OWN DESIGNS
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- CUT OUT A CIRCLE ABOUT 6CM IN DIAMETER
 - DRAW A DESIGN ON EACH SIDE OF THE CIRCLE, THIS CAN BE ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE, BUT THE BEST ONES ARE TWO PHOTOS THAT GO TOGETHER, LIKE A BIRD AND A CAGE. MAKE SURE THE PICTURES ARE FACING OPPOSITE WAYS: WHEN ONE PICTURE IS UPRIGHT, THE OTHER WILL BE UPSIDE DOWN.
 - POKE OR PUNCH A HOLE ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CIRCLE.
 - THREAD A PIECE OF STRING THROUGH ONE OF THE HOLES AND TIE AT ONE END. REPEAT ON THE OTHER SIDE.
 - HOLD EACH STRING BETWEEN YOUR THUMB AND INDEX FINGER AND TWIST TO SPIN THE DISC. SEE TWO PICTURES BECOME ONE!

THE WORD THAUMATROPE COMES FROM THE GREEK THAUMA "WONDER" AND TROPOS "TURN," OR "SPINNING WONDER." THAUMATROPES ARE AN OPTICAL TOY THAT DEMONSTRATES PERSISTENCE OF VISION. PERSISTENCE OF VISION IS A PHENOMENON THAT HAPPENS WITH OUR EYES. WHEN WE SEE AN IMAGE, THE IMAGE IS HELD ON THE RETINA IN OUR EYE FOR A FRACTION OF A SECOND. IF WE SEE ANOTHER IMAGE RIGHT AWAY, THE TWO PICTURES APPEAR TO MAKE UP A SINGLE IMAGE.

