

# Design a Wind Sock



Wind socks are tools used to tell which direction the wind is blowing. We can design one to hang in our rooms or outside our homes.

## Materials:

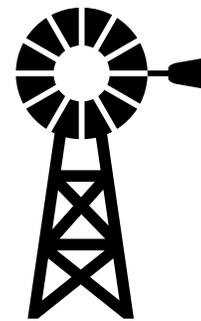
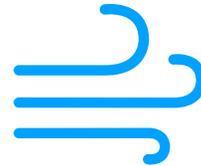
- Large paper (11" x 14" or 11" x 17")
- Art supplies
- Streamers/ribbon/rickrack
- String/yarn
- Hole punch
- Tape
- Scissors
- Stapler (optional)
- Fan (optional)

## Preparation:

- Set out paper and art supplies for participants to use.
- Optional: Set up a fan for participants to test their creation.

## Try This:

1. Use art supplies to decorate one side of the paper.
2. Cut streamers into lengths and tape them to the backside of the paper along the long, bottom edge.
3. Turn the paper into a cylinder with the streamers on the inside and the decoration on the outside. Staple or tape closed.
4. Punch two holes on opposite sides of the top of the cylinder.
5. Cut a length of string (approx. 2 feet) and feed it through both holes. Tie the ends of the string together to create a loop suitable for hanging the wind sock.



## Want to Know More?

Wind consists of moving air, but is created by differences in air pressure. Air will always move from areas of high pressure to areas of low pressure. When the sun heats the ground, the air closest to the Earth's surface heats up and rises. Cold air then comes down and replaces the hotter air, creating a convection current.

Moving air can push other objects, causing them to move. Tools such as weather vanes (wind direction), anemometers (wind speed), thermometers (air temperature), and barometers (atmospheric pressure) are used to measure the properties of the wind.

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## Facilitator Guide



### **Learning Objectives:**

- Wind is moving air and it can move objects.
- Scientists use tools to gather information.

### **Leading Questions:**

- What happens when you keep your wind sock still?
- What do you predict will happen if you take your wind sock outside on a windy day?
- What can you predict by using your wind sock?
- How would your wind sock act differently if it were made of a heavy material?

### **Hospital Accommodations:**

- Include adaptive scissors in your kit for those developing fine motor control.
- Do-a-Dot paint markers work well for drawing and keeping the mess to a minimum. Plus, they are easy to sanitize between uses.
- For patients staying at the hospital, use the wind sock to decorate IV/medicine poles, wheelchairs, or their room.

### **Key Words:**

Weather Vane - an instrument used to tell the direction of the wind. Weather vanes are typically used more for decoration than for function.

Anemometer - an instrument used to measure wind speed and direction.

Thermometer - an instrument used to measure air temperature.

Barometer - an instrument used to measure atmospheric pressure.