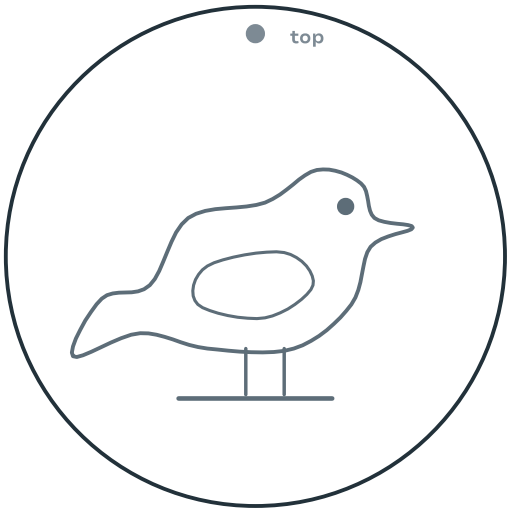
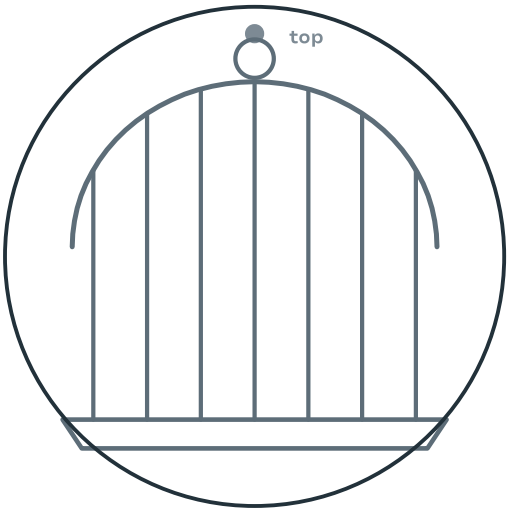
Thaumatrope spinners

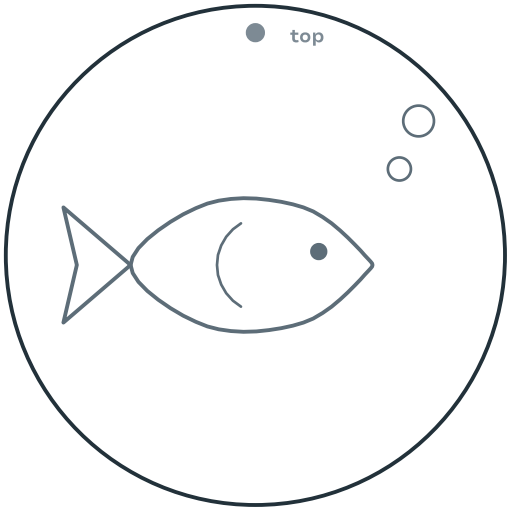
cut
fold



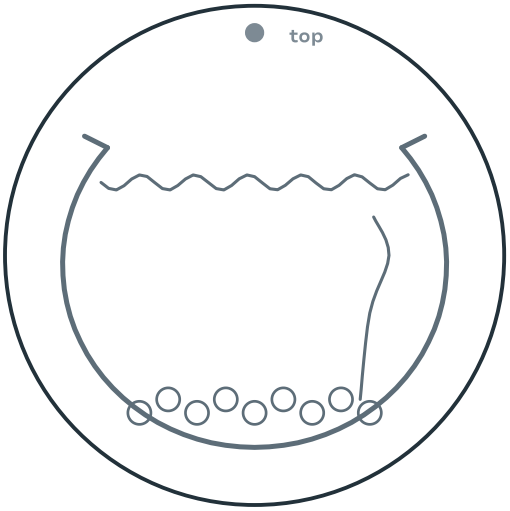
1 · FRONT



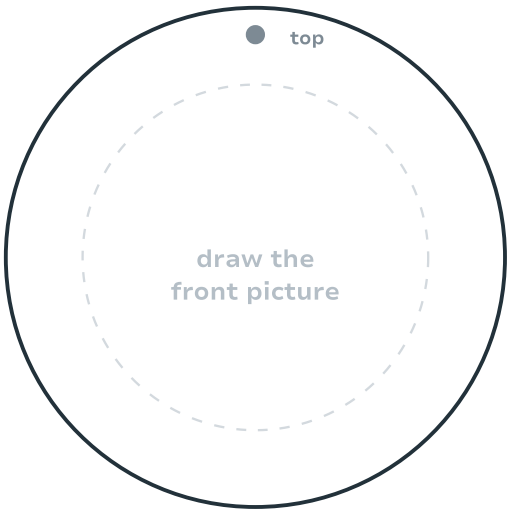
1 · BACK



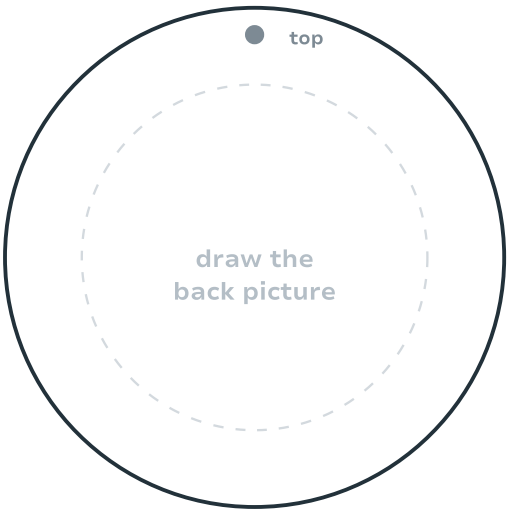
2 · FRONT



2 · BACK



3 · FRONT



3 · BACK

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Thaumatrope spinner

Ages 6-12 | 20 min | Mess: Low | Cardstock

You need

- Printed circles on cardstock
- A straw or pencil
- Tape
- Glue stick
- Crayons

Skills practiced

- Lining up two sides
- Observing

LESSON LINK

Your eyes and brain blend two pictures that swap quickly, the same idea behind animation.

Grades: 2-6

Ties to: Science: light and sight. History: the English doctor John Paris described this toy in 1825.

Source: Kenyon College, Early Scientific Apparatus, https://physics.kenyon.edu/EarlyApparatus/Optical_Recreations/Thaumatropes/Thaumatropes.html

Steps

1. Color a front and back pair (bird and cage, or fish and bowl), or draw your own on the blank pair.
2. Cut out both circles of the pair.
3. Tape a straw or pencil to the back of the FRONT circle, running from the top dot straight down through the middle.
4. Glue the BACK circle on, picture facing out, with both top dots at the top.
5. Roll the straw fast between your hands. The bird goes into the cage.

Tip: Ask kids to design a pair where the two halves need each other: a face and a hat, a hive and a bee.

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