



Teaspoon Anemometer

Getting Ready

How fast air is moving is important to weather forecasters. The instrument they use for this is called an anemometer. In this activity you get to build one which really works!

Stuff to Make it Happen (Materials)

pencil* floral tube 4 broken spoons square chunk of clay

Making it Happen (Mold or form the clay into a square shape.)

1. Push the closed end of the floral tube about 3/4 " into a side of the square chunk of clay. Keep the chunk's shape as square as possible. The side you pushed the floral tube into is now the anemometer's bottom. Look at the drawing to help you.

2. Push a broken end of a spoon handle into one side of the square clay. Do the same with the other spoons. They must be the same distance apart, and all facing the same direction!

3. Insert a pencil into the opening of the floral tube. Hold your *Teaspoon Anemometer* by the pencil. Be sure it can turn easily. Check the drawing just to be sure!!

4. Blow very gently into one of the spoons. Watch your *Teaspoon Anemometer* spin!!

Understanding the Science

An **Anemometer** is a device which **Meteorologists** use to help **Forecast the Weather**. It has the purpose of measuring wind **Speed**. Each of the spoons or air cups catch the air and turn it into a circular motion called **Torque**. The main purpose of an anemometer is to measure wind speed or **Velocity**. If you look down from on top of the spinning anemometer you'll notice it can turn two directions; **Clockwise** and **Counterclockwise**. Clockwise movement is just like you would think, the object turns in the direction the hands of a clock would. (left to right) Counterclockwise is the opposite direction!

Let's Check the View!

(Questions and Assessments)

1. Some of the devices kids made didn't turn smoothly, why do you think this happened?

