CU Home Learning Challenge:

Making Your Own Wind Vane!

You will need –

- A paper plate or cardboard/thick paper
- An extra sheet of paper
- Scissors
- A pencil with a eraser/rubber on the end
- Colouring pencils or felt tips
- A straw
- A Pin



Step 1 - If you are using card, cut out a circle and pierce a hole in the middle. If you are able to use a paper plate you can just pierce the hole. Ask an adult for help.

Step 2 – Label each quarter with words or letters to label them north, south, east and west

Step 3 – Cut your straw so it measures roughly 3 cms less than the diameter of (across) your circle. But be careful not to cut it too short that it won't turn properly.

Step 4 – Cut up your straw length ways around 1 ½ cm in from each end

Step 5 – Out of your paper, cut a triangle for the front of your arrow and a thick V shape for the back of your arrow

Step 6 – Place the triangle and the V shape you have made into the slits you have cut length ways up each end of your straw

Step 7 – Take your pin and push it into your straw right in the middle so the whole pin goes through the straw, this will hold your straw to the base

Step 8 – Do you remember the hole you pierced into your circle base in step 1? Good, now take your pencil with the eraser/rubber on the end and push it through the hole you pierced. The base should sit at least halfway up your pencil

Step 9 – Take your straw with the pin and push the pin's sharp point into the eraser/rubber on your pencil. This should now make your arrow hold onto your base. Now feel free to use as many colours to decorate it in any way you like!

You can always make a diary of which way the wind is blowing each day or does the wind change direction in a day?

Tips

• Always take care when using scissors, especially as cutting a straw can sometimes be a bit fiddly

- The items that we have suggested can be adapted. You can use other things such as a pencil and add play dough or blue tac to the top. There are no rules as to what resources you use, so long as it makes a wind vane.
- Be careful when pushing the pin through the straw as this can sometimes be a bit difficult.
- Finally the last tip we can give you and possibly the most important for you to get an accurate reading of which way the wind is coming from is **the sun rises in the east and sets in the west!** GOOD LUCK!

This activity provides you with 1 credit for making the wind vane or 2 credits if you make a diary of which way the wind blows where you are for 5 days!

We have attached a photo of a wine vane to give you a rough idea what the final item should look. This doesn't need to be exact, you could probably even try to make one better!

You can earn up to 2 CU Learning Credits for completing this task. Once you have completed all the challenge, email your reflection diary along with evidence of your completed activity to admin@essexchildrensuniversity.co.uk and we will award CU credits. We can't wait to see your work!

