

Making a Whirligig

A whirligig is something that spins or whirls. Button whirligigs have been played with since 500 BC. Today, whirligigs can be made from many different materials and are a fun toy to make and play with.

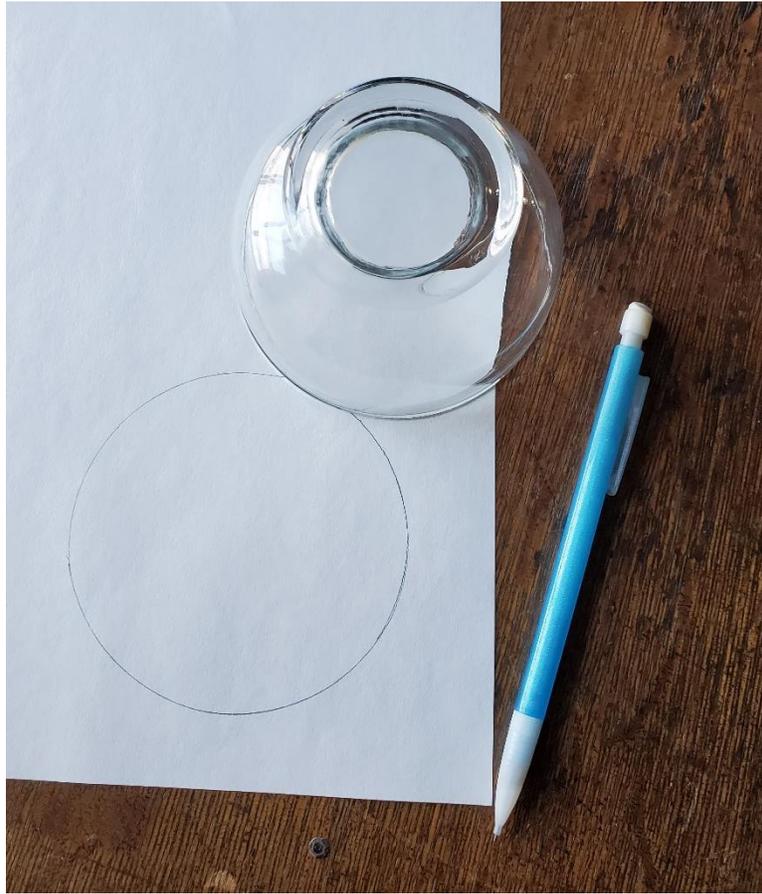
Materials

- Stiff grade of paper such as card stock (cardboard will work too)
- a container with a circular edge
- a pencil
- coloring utensils
- scissors
- glue stick
- piece of yarn/ string
- sharp object to poke holes



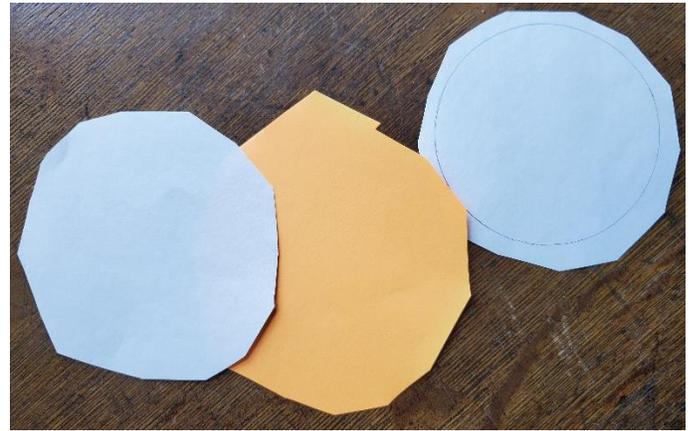
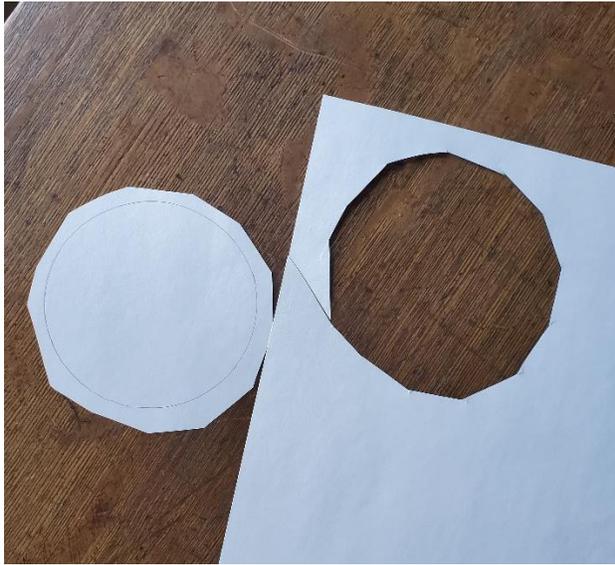
Instructions

1. Trace a perfect circle on a sheet of paper/ cardboard.

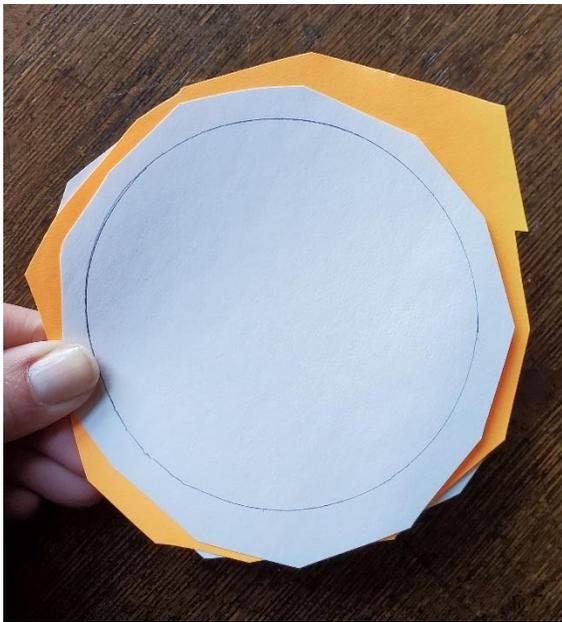


2. Cut roughly around the tracing and use it to cut several other circles roughly the same size *

*if you are using cardboard you can cut along the paper tracing and skip the instructions about cutting/ gluing extra paper.



3. Line the rough cuts with the traced circle on top. Then cut along the tracing...cutting all three circles at once (this is to make certain they are all the same size).



4. Glue your paper circles together (the multiple sheets of paper adds weight). And color a design on each side of your whirligig.



5. Locate the center of your whirligig and poke a hole about half a centimeter on the left and right side of it.



6. Draw your string through the holes and tie the ends together.



7. Slide your whirligig to the center of the string so that you have an equal amount of string on each end.

How to play

1. Pick up your whirligig from each end of the string with the whirligig in the middle.
2. Using a waving motion with your arms, flip the whirligig so that the strings twist together.
3. Once the strings are twisted, gently pull the strings out and the whirligig will spin as the string unwinds.