

Student directions: Build a weather vane.

Materials (for pairs of students)

Scissors

Tape

Student journals

Construction paper

Straight pin

Metric ruler

Pencil with eraser

Soda straw

Compass

Procedure:

1. Use scissors to cut out a pointer and a slightly larger tail fin from construction paper.
2. Make a slit 1 cm deep in each end of the straw.
3. Slide the pointer and the tail fin into place on the straw, securing them with small pieces of tape.
4. Hold the straw on their finger to find the point at which it balances.
5. Push a pin through the balance point and into the eraser of a pencil. They then moved the wind vane back and forth to make sure it can spin freely.
6. Set the wind vane in the center of a compass.

{! Insert safety symbol} Caution should be exercised with handling sharp objects (scissors and the straight pin) and protective eyewear is worn while participating in the activity.