

## Exploring Wind

As the winds blow in, here is a fun activity you can do with your child to bring the essence of the Westchester Children's Museum's future programming into your home.

### Materials:

- 1 piece of recycled foam, i.e. packaging from produce or shipping materials (hull)
- 1 popsicle stick (mast)
- 1 piece of construction paper cut into the shape of a triangle (sail)
- A small rectangular tub, kitchen sink or bathtub (lake, river or ocean)
- Straw (wind power)
- Scissors and crayons or markers



### What to Do:

Have your child decorate the sail with markers or crayons. Cut two small slits in the paper and slide the mast into the sail. Make a small slit in the hull to anchor the mast into the foam. If the foam board is quite thin, use a small piece of play dough to make it stick. Now get ready to set sail! Remember to christen your boat with a name before you launch. Use the straw to blow the boat across the water

### While you're having fun, pose the following questions:

- What direction is the wind blowing?
- What direction is it moving your boat?
- What else can you move with wind power?
- Can you move a ping-pong ball?
- How about your couch?
- What type of energy did you use to move your boat?
- How can we harness wind to use as energy?



### Follow up by Becoming a Wind Detective:

- Discover which way the wind is blowing by observing trees, grass and leaves outside.
- Look for a weather vane in your community.

**Parents:** Did you know that wind is caused by air flowing from high pressure to low pressure? The wind's direction is influenced by the Earth's rotation.