

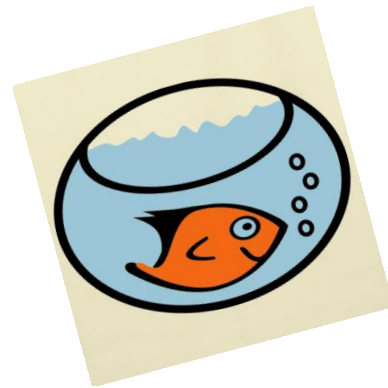


Thaumatrope

A thauma-what?! Say “THO-ma-trope” and you’ve got it right! A thaumatrope is an optical illusion toy from the 1800s. When you spin the thaumatrope, the picture moves so quickly that your eyes and brain can’t see them separately. Your brain holds on to each picture, causing both pictures to blend into one.

What You’ll Need:

- 2 cards
- Pencil
- Crayons
- Plastic straw
- Clear tape



What To Do:

1. Draw one part of a picture on one card.
2. Then draw the other part of the picture on the other card. The pictures should be connected (like a fish and a bowl). Hint: It helps to draw the pictures with the cards lined up next to each other.
3. Tape the cards together with the pictures facing out.
4. Tape a straw to the cards.
5. Spin the straw between your hands. What do you see?

Thaumatrope Picture Ideas:

- A flower and a pot
- A bird and a cage
- A man and a mustache
- A boat and the ocean
- A cloud and a lightning bolt
- A person and a hat
- A pizza and toppings
- A angel and wings