

Kindergarten - Lesson K1.4

What is Wind?

NGSS Alignment

Performance Expectations

K-ESS2-1: Use and share observations of local weather conditions to describe patterns over time.

Note: The activities in this lesson focus on what wind is and how wind is produced. Students will understand the connection between the particles that make up the air and the effects of wind.

Disciplinary Core Ideas

K-ESS2.D: Weather and Climate

- Weather is the combination of sunlight, wind, snow or rain, and temperature in a particular region at a particular time. (K-ESS2-1)

Students conduct two activities and view an animation to begin to understand that air is made of tiny particles and that wind is moving air. Students are also introduced to the idea that wind results from warm air rising and colder air moving in to take its place.

Science and Engineering Practices

Analyzing and Interpreting Data

- Use observations (firsthand or from media) to describe patterns in the natural world in order to answer scientific questions. (K-ESS2-1)

Students blow on strips of paper and wave magazines at student-made towers to model wind. In addition, students also view an animation to help answer the question: What is wind? Students refine their understanding of the connection between the particles in air and the effects of wind by experiencing the way objects move in the “wind” that students make.

Crosscutting Concepts

Patterns

- Patterns in the natural world can be observed, used to describe phenomena, and used as evidence. (K-ESS2-1)

Cause and Effect

- Events have causes that generate observable patterns.

Students investigate the cause of wind and the reason objects move when wind hits them. They begin to understand that since air is made of tiny particles, and wind is moving air, the tiny particles hit against objects and make them move.