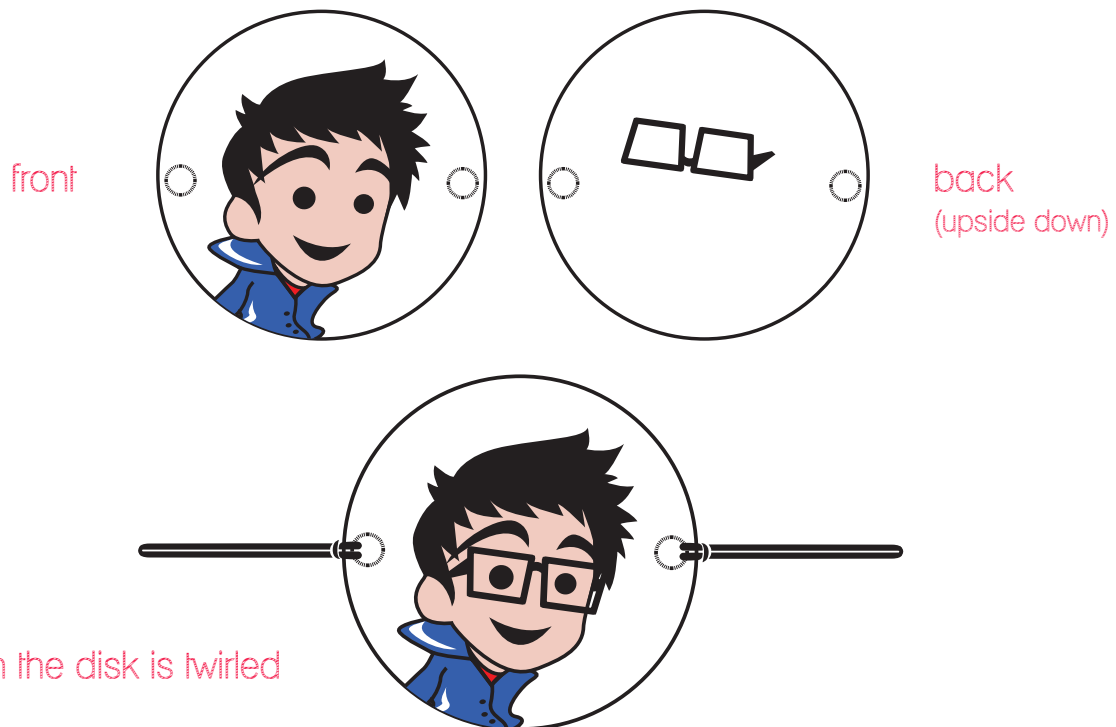




Thaumatrope

Background:

The history of animation and movie-making begins with a simple device called the thaumatrope. This optical illusion toy was in wide circulation by 1826, and it may have been known much earlier than that. The thaumatrope is the most basic of motion toys. It consists of a disc that is attached to two pieces of string. When twirled, the images on the sides of the disc are perceived together as a single image.



Now, it's your turn to make one. Check the next pages.





Are you ready to make your own thaumatrope? Here's what you need:

- Heavy stock paper, or cardboard
- Thick string, yarn, or rubberband
- Scissors
- Paper Hole Punch
- Coloring materials

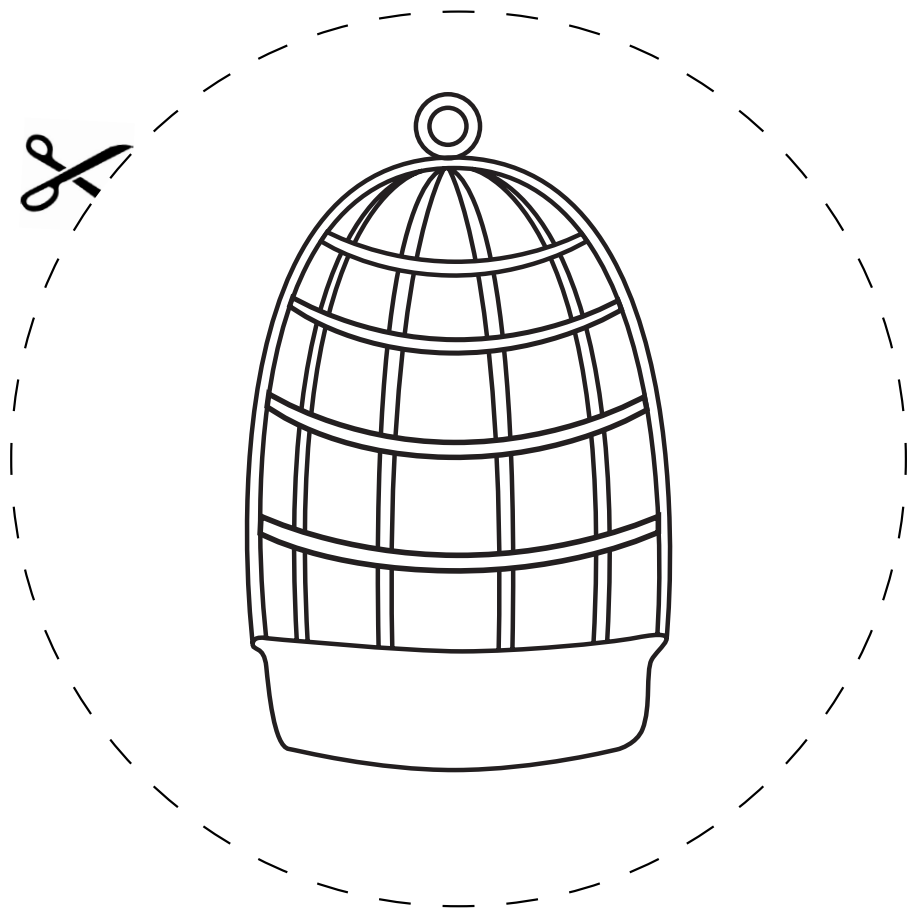
Instructions:

1. Color the images found on the next page.
2. Cut both disks and glue them together (pictures facing out and top sides up).
3. Use an eighth inch hole punch to punch two holes on opposite sides the circle—left and right.
4. Cut two lengths of string about 8-inches long. Thread a piece of string through one hole and tie the ends together to form a loop. Repeat for the other hole.
5. Spin the disk by twirling the strings between the thumb and index finger of each hand. Your two images should appear like a single image.

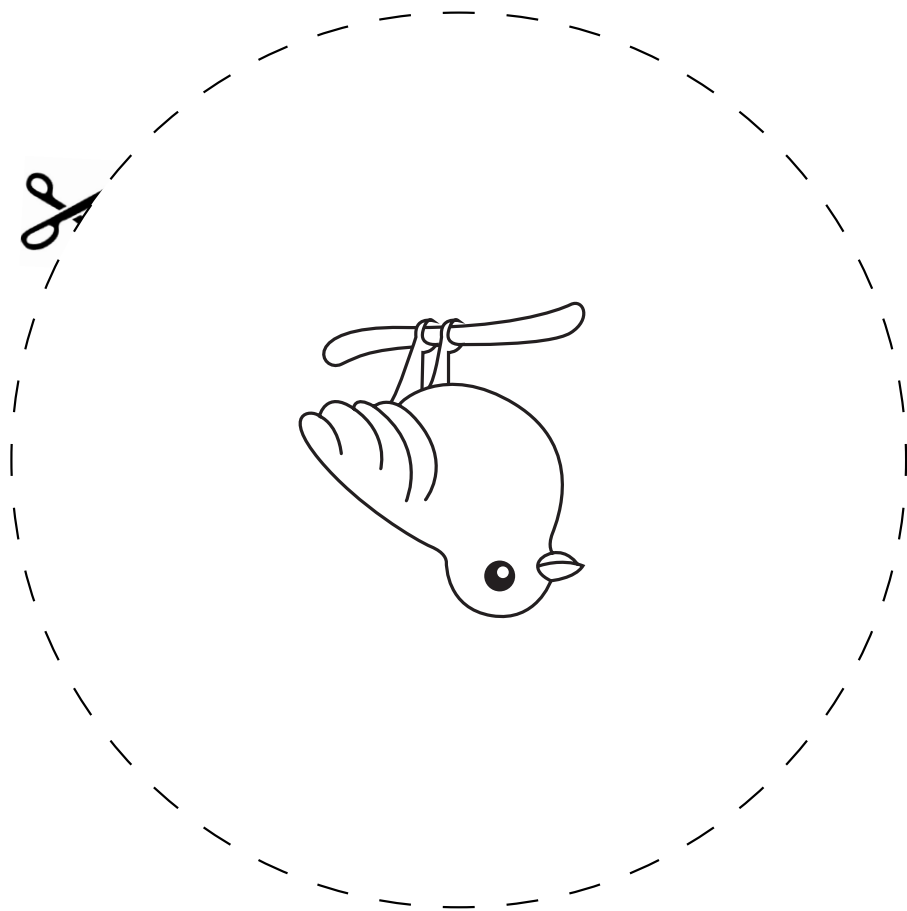
Vocabulary:

1. **Animation**- a simulation of movement created by displaying a series of pictures, or frames. Cartoons on television is one example of animation.
2. **Optical Illusion**- an illusion resulting from certain visual effects that cause a viewer to misunderstand or misinterpret what he or she actually sees.





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