

## Winter Hiker Activity - Windy Day

Source: energyforeducators.org



### Instructions:

1. Smear a clear plastic plate with a thin coat of Vaseline and tape it to the side of the shed facing the wind. Observe the weathervane on top of the shed and discuss which direction the wind is moving.
2. Have students observe the wind gauge on the roof of the shed. Ask students to guess how fast the wind is moving that day. Place the battery in the wind gauge to find the answer - interior wall of shed, left side of peg board. **PLEASE remove the battery when you're finished.**
3. Use fact sheet to talk about the wind.
4. Explore the Habitat for objects moved by the wind or moving in the wind. Straighten up the area as needed: remove litter, replace fallen sharecrows, etc.
5. Return to the plastic plate and use magnifying glasses to observe what happened to the Vaseline. Discard plate.

### Supplies:

- clear plastic plates
- masking tape
- Vaseline
- spare 9V battery
- magnifying glasses - **MUST RETRIEVE FROM BOOK ROOM**

**Please feel free to offer suggestions for improving this activity.**

## Wind Facts

Ask students the following questions and supplement their answers with the information below.

### What is wind?

Wind is moving air.



### What can wind be used for?

We can use the energy in wind to do work.

Early Egyptians used the wind to sail ships on the Nile River.

People use wind to move them in sailboats.

In Holland, people used windmills to grind wheat.

Pilgrims used windmills to grind corn, to pump water, and to run sawmills.

Today, we use wind to make electricity.



### Is wind dangerous?

Strong winds can be very dangerous and cause a lot of damage. Hurricane force winds are capable of knocking down trees and houses.