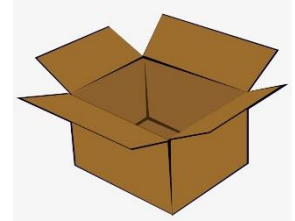




## Science Activity

### Bird in a Cage

Time to prepare: 5 minutes



□ Please, stay safe and ask a grown up to supervise you

#### Resources/ things you need

- Thin card or paper
- A cup
- A pencil
- Cellotape
- Scissors

#### What to do

1. First, turn the cup upside down on the card or paper and draw round it. Do this twice to make two circles.
2. Next, on one circle draw a picture of a bird.
3. Then, on the other circle draw a big bird cage.
4. Now, stick the circles on to either side of the pencil using the cellotape.
5. Finally, stand the pencil up and rub it between your hands to make it spin around. **What do you see? Is the bird in or out of the cage?**

#### Background and the link to learning

**Bird in a Cage - A thaumatrope with one birds on one image and an empty bird cage on the other is alternated so fast that the birds appear to be inside the cage.**

A thaumatrope is an optical toy that was popular in the 19th century. A disk with a picture on each side is attached to two pieces of string. When the strings are twirled quickly between the fingers the two pictures appear to blend into one due to the persistence of vision. This effect can be recreated using a pencil and two pieces of paper. Are your eyes playing tricks on you?

Check out these optical illusions -  
<https://www.optics4kids.org/illusions>

#### Pictures



Link to other similar activities - Please see: [The Mystery Box.](#)

