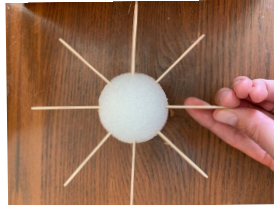




DIY: Water Wheel

1. If you would like, color the popsicle “spoons” and create cool patterns. Make sure that the spoons are facing the correct way so when the water rotates the ball it is hitting the spoon on the right side. To make them even, place one in and place the other directly on the opposite side.



2. Place the wooden skewer stick into the center of the styrofoam ball. Make sure the stick is perpendicular to the spoons so it acts as the axel of the wheel.

3. Place the stick into two paper cups to be held up. Take two paper cups and punch one hole in each one. Place the skewer stick into each hole so the hydropower wheel stands 1-2 inches off the table so it can spin freely.

4. Put a pie tin or cookie sheet under the wheel to catch the water. Pour water onto the spoons and watch the wheel begin to turn. To have it spin continuously, take it outside and turn the water hose on low and let it spin continually.



The Science

A water wheel takes kinetic energy and converts it into electricity. The force of the moving water is exerted against the paddles, which causes the paddles to rotate. The rotation of the wheel is transmitted to a machinery (called a rotor) via the shaft of the wheel. The rotor is part of a larger generator that is used to produce electricity

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