

A STEM in the Park

Take Home Activity

STEM

in the **PARK**™

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

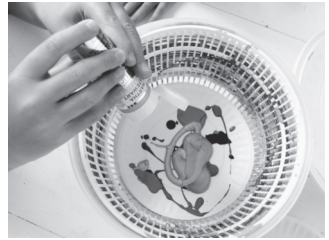
Salad Spinner Art

Recommended for ages 3 – Adult

What You Need

- Salad spinner*
- Large coffee filters
- Red, yellow, blue tempera paint

**You may be able to find salad spinners at a thrift store or you can also purchase a new one.*



What To Do

1. Place two large coffee filters in the salad spinner.
2. Squeeze a generous amount of red, yellow and blue paint in the center of the filter.
Experiment with squeezing the paint in concentric rings or next to each other.
3. Place the lid on the salad spinner and spin!
4. Remove filter and let dry.

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The Science

Salad spinner art provides a hands-on, concrete method to explore color theory and centrifugal force.

Inquiry

Color Theory: Most colors are derived from the three basic primary colors: red, yellow and blue. By mixing these colors in the salad spinner a variety of hues are created and the secondary colors (green, orange and purple) will appear. What happened when you pumped the salad spinner? What happened to the red, yellow and blue? How do you think that happened?

Centrifugal Force: Centrifugal force is not a real force but is actually a demonstration of inertia. Inertia is the tendency of an object in motion to stay in motion. Centrifugal force describes the tendency of an object to follow a curved path to fly away from the center point. What direction did the paint travel? Why did that happen? (The concept of centrifugal force is used for things like the Round-Up (see below) merry-go-rounds and tetherball).



This activity is brought to you by the BGSU Child Development Lab

