

Paper Whip



Can paper be used to crack a sound?

What you need:

- Large sheet of paper
- Colouring pens/pencils (optional)

What to do?

1. Fold the paper in half along – longest side to longest side and open it out again. Making a centre line.
2. Fold each corner down to meet the centre line. Making a diamond shape
3. Fold the paper in half along the centre fold.
4. Fold in half again, across the middle. Press down firmly on the middle crease and open it out again.
5. Fold the corners on the long side down towards the new middle crease.
6. Fold the paper back in half to make a triangle shape.
7. To crack your paper whip, hold it by the long pointy flaps, with the centre point facing down and swish it sharply down through the air. You need to use your whole arm and do this hard and fast.

What's going on?

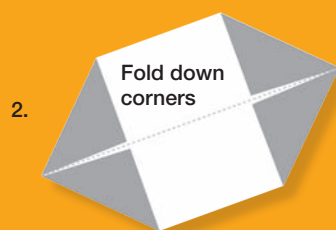
When you crack your paper whip you actually flick out the centre of the folded paper. This makes the air vibrate and these vibrations travel to your ear. More energy is given to the vibrating air when you flick the paper whip harder and faster. This greater energy creates a much louder sound.

Explore more

- Can you make whips to make a higher or lower sound?



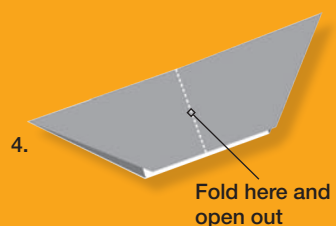
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2.



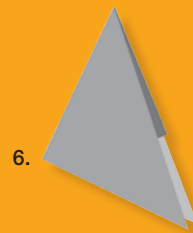
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7.