



Watch Video

Renewable vs. Nonrenewable Resources Activity for Kids

Water Wheel DIY

 Duration: **30-60 min**

 Difficulty: **Medium**

 Cost: **\$0 to \$5**

Make your own water wheel to better understand renewable energy!

Material List

- 1** Large plastic container
- 2** Long rulers
- 2** Paper or foam plates
- 1** Deck of playing cards
- 1** Wood barbecue skewer
- 1** Pair of scissors
- 1** Roll of tape
- 1** Stapler
- 1** Pitcher of water

Instructions

- 1** Poke a hole in the center of each plate.
- 2** Fold 8 playing cards in thirds with the help of a ruler.
- 3** Staple the playing cards evenly around one plate, then staple them to the other.
- 4** Insert the skewer through the two holes in the plates.
- 5** Place two rulers on top of the large plastic container.
- 6** Place the water wheel on the rulers and tape down the skewer.
- 7** Pour water onto the wheel and observe the results!

Quick tip: A foam egg carton can be cut apart and used in place of playing cards.

How It Works

The energy of the moving water is transferred to the wheel, which makes the wheel spin! In real life, this motion energy of the wheel turning can be used to spin a generator which makes electricity. That electricity can be used far away from the power plant to turn on lights, charge your computer, and so much more!