

TWIST UP YOUR CLASSROOM

LESSON OVERVIEW

Get students excited about the concepts in *The Toy and the Twister* by creating a collaborative collage or sculpture of a tornado. Make an artful display on a bulletin board or another large space in your classroom by using different materials to construct a floor-to-ceiling tornado. Use this to facilitate a discussion about tornadoes.

STANDARDS

CCSS ELA SL.K.1	Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about kindergarten topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.
CCSS ELA SL.1.2	Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.
CCSS ELA SL.2.2	Recount or describe key ideas or details from a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.
NGSS - ESS3.B	Natural Hazards - Some kinds of severe weather are more likely than others in a given region. Weather scientists forecast severe weather so that the communities can prepare for and respond to these events. (K-ESS3-2)

OBJECTIVES

- Students will work together to design and build an artful tornado display.
- Students will explore the structure and characteristics of a tornado through art.

MATERIALS

- Magazines that can be cut up
- Photos
- Small toys
- Debris (branches, leaves, other materials that might be picked up in high winds)
- Optional Materials for a 3-D sculpture:
 - Wire
 - Mesh
 - Fabric
 - Paper

PROCEDURES

1. Have students bring pictures of their favorite toy or cut out one from a magazine.
2. Work as a large group to discuss properties of a tornado.
3. Review the materials available for creating your tornado collage or sculpture.
4. Brainstorm and sketch a model of the tornado you want to create.
5. Use your materials construct the tornado. This can cover an entire bulletin board or you can create a floor to ceiling display. Attach each student's photo to the tornado. You can modify this by adding the vocabulary words or outside pieces that would be caught in a tornado such as a shingle, tree branch, etc.

DISCUSSION

Use this art project to talk about other ways a student could create a tornado. What other mediums could be used? Have students create their own tornadoes out of the other possibilities from your discussion. You can talk about debris, how a tornado picks things up as it moves along, and what happens after the tornado is over.