

# Alabama Whirligig

Whirligig is a name used to describe anything that continuously whirls, moves, or changes. During the 19th century (1800s), people used this word to describe children's wind-up motion toys.

Make a paper whirligig and give it a twirl!

Directions:

1. Cut out the Alabama shape.
2. Cut the dotted lines.
3. Fold flap A and flap B back on top of each other.
4. Place a paper clip or tape at the bottom of the A-B fold.
5. Bend blade C away from blade D in opposite directions.
6. Throw the Whirligig in the air and watch what happens!

Does your whirligig turn clockwise or counterclockwise? Switch and fold blades C and D the other way. Now which way does it twirl? Try different blade lengths and widths to experiment with aerodynamics (the study of objects moving through air.)

Blade C and D folded  
in opposite directions.

