



Tracing Heat Flow

Have you ever wondered how your house or apartment is heated? In this activity, you will turn up the heat to find out how warm air moves through a room.

INQUIRY FOCUS Observe

Procedure

1. Use the bowl to trace a large circle onto each sheet of construction paper.
2.  Carefully cut out each circle. Use a pencil point to poke a small hole in the center of each circle.
3. Draw a spiral line outward from the center of each circle to the edge.
4. Carefully cut along the lines to produce four paper spirals.
5. Use 20-cm long pieces of string to hang the spirals around one room in your house or apartment. Make sure one of the spirals is near a heating vent or just above the radiator.
6. Have an adult turn up the heat and observe what happens to each of the spirals.

Materials

4 sheets of
construction paper
large bowl (diameter
of 15–20 cm)
pencil
scissors
string
metric ruler

Think It Over

- 1 Which paper spiral spun the most/fastest?

- 2 Which paper spiral spun the least/slowest?

- 3 Use your observations to explain how you think heat moved through the room.

