Making a Thaumatrope

Activity for ages 6+. Adult supervision recommended.

Thaumatrope discs have an image on each side, that when spun quickly, seem to combine into one! Use these templates to create a spinning ballerina and a parrot in a birdcage. Then, design a creative thaumatrope of your own!

Step 1:
Color your thaumatropes using coloring pencils, crayons or markers.

Step 2:
With scissors, cut out and attach each pair back-to-back on a drinking straw using school glue or tape.

Step 3:
With the straw between the palms of your hands, move your hands back and forth to spin the straw and see the ballerina twirl and the parrot in the birdcage!