

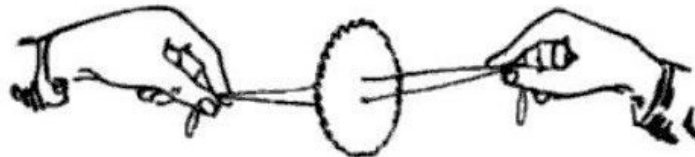
# Colonial Children's Toys Spinning Tops & Whirligigs



[https://www.ourgreenhouse.com/Wooden\\_Top\\_Toy\\_p/ots-top.htm](https://www.ourgreenhouse.com/Wooden_Top_Toy_p/ots-top.htm)

To make a Spinning Top:

- 1) Out of sturdy cardboard cut out a circle any size you want but a diameter of around 4-5 cm works well. Use a compass to draw the circle as it makes finding the exact centre of the circle much easier.
- 2) Decorate your cardboard circle.
- 3) Use a wooden skewer or matchstick (with the sulphur tip removed) as the pin and pierce the cardboard through the middle.
- 4) Then spin. Try different techniques to make the top spin longer or faster. Add various decorative elements (glue sequins or glitter or grains of rice) to add weight to the top and see if it makes a difference to how it spins but remember to keep it balanced.



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whirligig>

To make a Whirligig:

- 1) Cut out a 10 cm circle on a piece of stiff cardboard or you can use a large 2 or 4 hole button.
- 2) Make two holes in the cardboard approximately 3/8 inch (9 mm) from the centre.
- 3) Thread a piece of string about 2-1/2 feet long through the holes and tie the ends together.
- 4) Proceed by twirling the circle until the string is tangled. Pull outwards on the string, then relax the tension so the string tangles again, then pull outwards again, etc, etc.
- 5) Try cutting small notches around the cardboard circle and see if you can make the Whirligig make different sounds when it spins or paint the cardboard circles so they make interesting patterns as they spin