

INV. 3 ACTIVITY—MAKE A WIND CATCHER

Art Extension

Construct a wind catcher

Students have worked with pinwheels and wind vanes that catch and use the wind to move. Have your child create their own wind catcher—something that moves in the wind.

Provide a variety of craft materials at a center: straws, crepe-paper scraps, paper, cardboard, plastic bags, string, yarn, thread, pipe cleaners, paper cups, paper plates, toothpicks, glue or tape, and fabric remnants.

After your child has completed the project, ask,

- Does it move? What makes it move?
- Why do you think this is a wind catcher?
- What do you think will happen if the wind blows really hard?

INV 3 ACTIVITY—EXPLORING WIND WITH KITES

Introduction

You can make something that uses air—a kite. Ask your child how they think a kite uses air. Confirm that if the wind is blowing, it lifts the kite into the air. Tell them that they will get a chance to make a kite and try it out. Adult help is needed to make the kites.

There are two different patterns for making kites. You can make or both of them and compare how they fly.

Materials for Kite 1

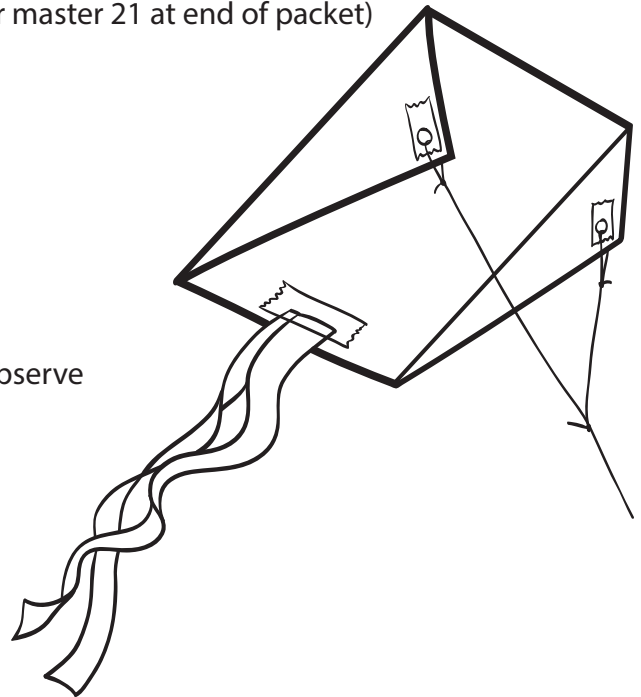
- Kite 1 pattern on paper (see next page, teacher master 21 at end of packet)
- Transparent tape
- Hole punch or sharp pencil (optional)
- String, light weight for bridle and flying line
- 2 Paper strips or ribbons for the kite tail (each about 25 cm or 10 in long)
- Scissors

Ask your child to describe the wind and how we observe the wind?

Explain that you will build a kite today. Here is the procedure:

Procedure for Making Kite 1

- a. Cut out the kite pattern along the solid lines.
- b. Optional: Stick a piece of transparent tape over the hole locations printed on the pattern. Use a hole punch or sharp pencil point to make the two holes. If you don't want to make holes, you can just tape the bridle to the hole locations (see Step d).
- c. Fold the two sides of the kite in, along the dotted lines.
- d. Tie one bridle string (35 cm, 14 in long) between the two holes (or just tape each end of the bridle string to the locations of the two holes).
- e. Tie a flying line to the bridle string. The flight line should be about 125 cm or 4 ft.
- f. Tape two strips of paper or ribbons to the kite for the tail (each about 2 X 25 cm or 1 in X 10 in).
- g. Write your name on your kite. You're ready to fly.



(Continued on the next page)

INV 3 ACTIVITY—EXPLORING WIND WITH KITES (Continued)

Activity

Ask your child to describe the wind and how we observe the wind?

Now take your kite outside and fly it!

Think about the following questions together:

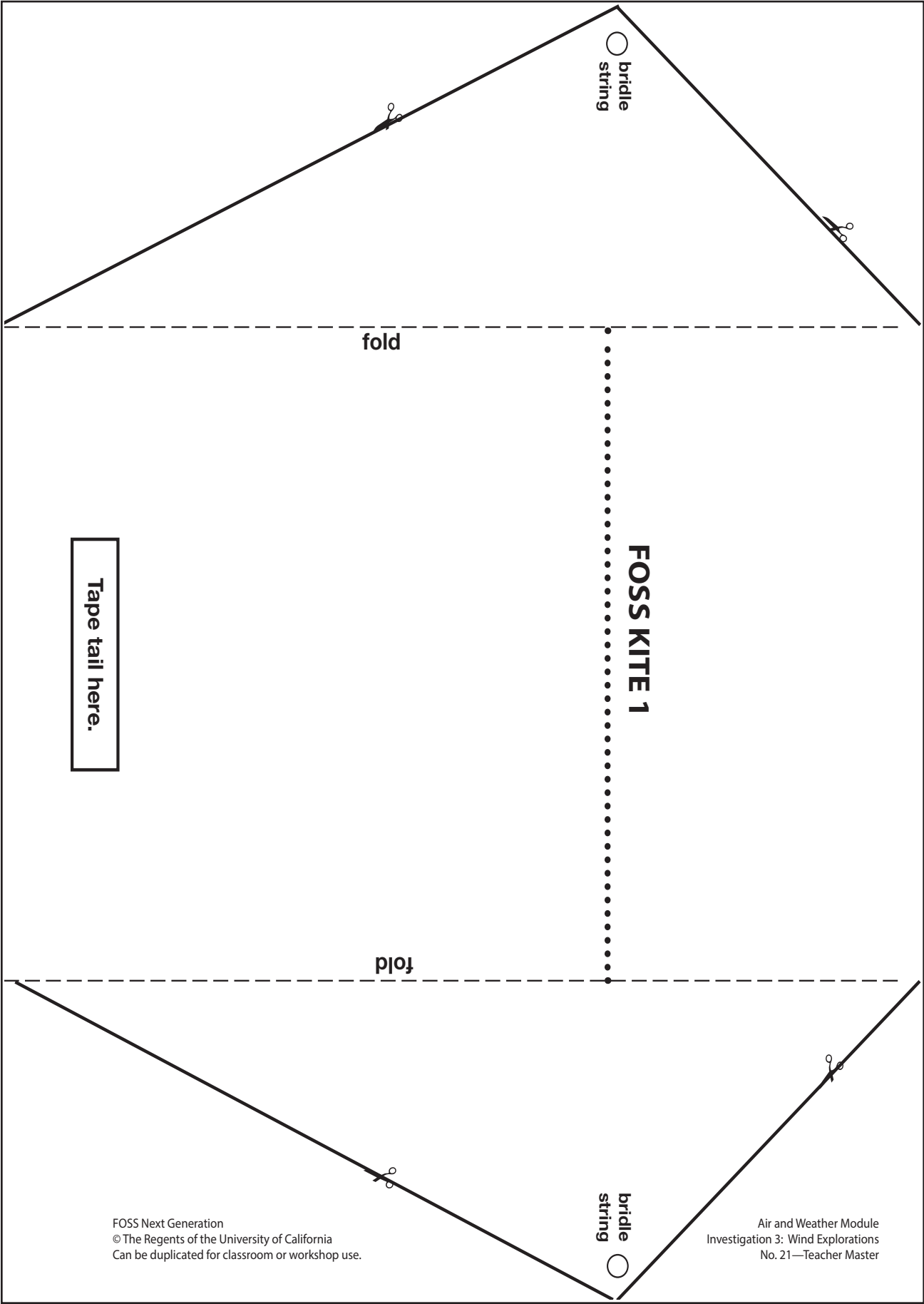
- From what direction is the wind blowing? Point to that direction.
- If there isn't much wind, could you move your body to help the kite fly?
- What did you feel when the kite flew up in the air?
- What caused the kite to go up? What parts of the kite helped it fly?
- What are the best conditions for kite flying?

Potential follow up activity

- Design and build several different kites. You may want to use plastic produce bags and flexible straws.

Decide if you need a long tail or not. What happens if the tails are really heavy material, like cardboard or lightweight material like plastic? Decide which design is the best.

Challenge someone at home to a kite-building competition.

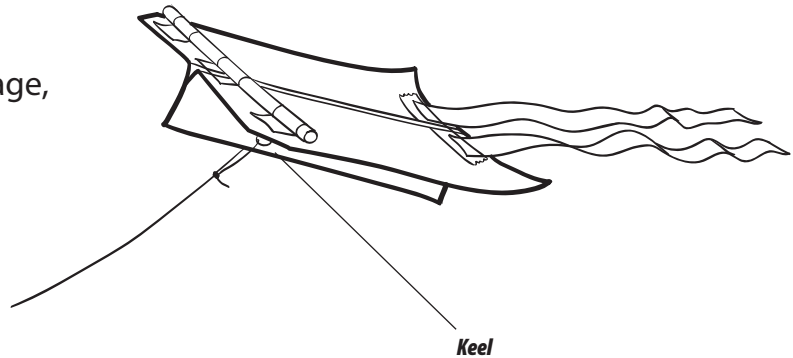


INV 3 ACTIVITY—EXPLORING WIND WITH KITES (Continued)

Making Kite 2

Materials

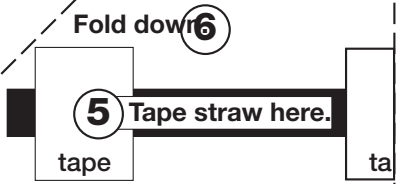
- Kite pattern on paper (see next page, teacher master 22)
- 1 Straw piece, about 13 cm (5 in.)
- Transparent tape
- Hole punch or sharp pencil to make a hole
- String, light weight for flying line, about 125 cm or 4 ft
- 2 Crepe paper or ribbons for the kite tail (each about 25 cm or 10 in long)
- Scissors



Procedure for Kite 2.

- a. Fold the pattern together along line 1.
- b. Fold the sides down at lines 2 and 3.
- c. Place a piece of tape across the kite at box 4.
- d. Tape the straw across the top of the kite at the three boxes labeled "tape."
- e. Fold down the corners of the kite at numbers 6 and 7.
- f. Tape two crepe-paper streamers to the kite at box 8 (each about 2 X 25 cm or 1 in X 10 in.
- g. Turn the kite over. Look at the keel (through the folded paper) to locate the dark black dots that mark the hole for attaching the flight line. Place a piece of tape on both sides where you will punch this hole.
- h. Use a hole punch to make a hole. If you don't have a hole punch you can use a sharp pencil point to carefully poke a hole.
- i. Tie the flight light through the hole. This flight line should be about 125 cm or 4 ft. Write your name on the kite. Your kite is ready.

FOSS KITE 2



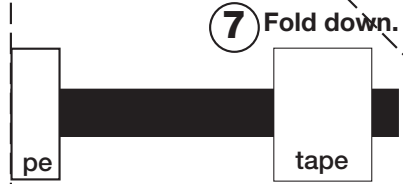
Fold down.

3



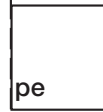
Fold together here.

1



Fold down.

2



9

Turn the kite over to add a hole and string.

