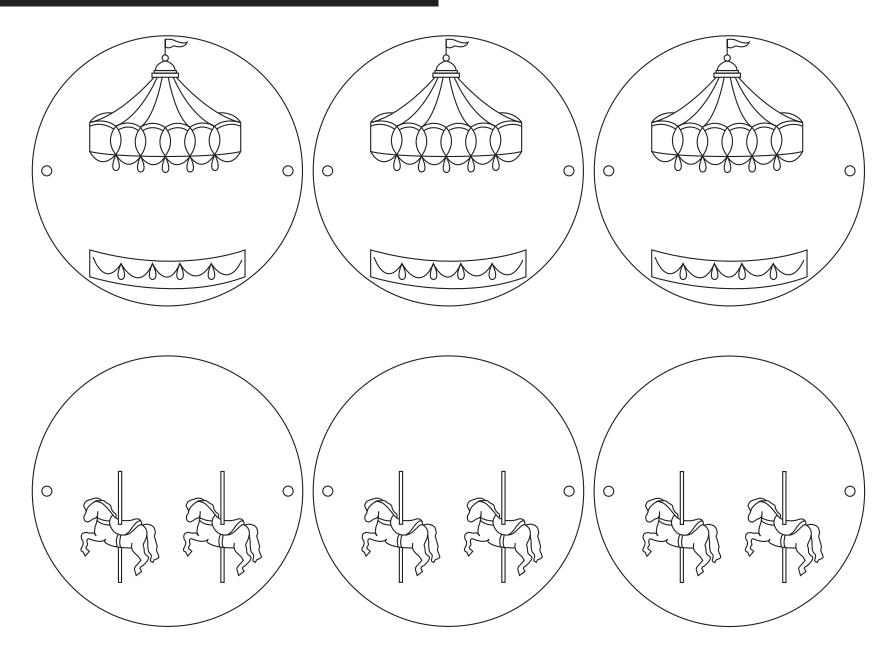
THAUMATROPE



Burnaby Village Museum

THAUMATROPE

A **thaumatrope** is a toy that was popular in the late 1800s. A thaumatrope is a disk with a picture on each side, and attached to two pieces of string. When the strings are twirled quickly between the fingers the two pictures appear to combine into a single image.

Thaumatropes are examples of early animation!

How to Make Your Thaumatrope

Supplies you will need to complete the craft: String, glue, scissors, hole punch.



- Cut out the two discs. Color them!
- Glue the discs together back to back with the images on the outside. Try to line up the small circles on the edges.
 IMPORTANT: One image should be right way up and the one on the back should be upside down. This ensures that when the thaumatrope spins, each image will be right side up.
- Punch a small hole through both layers on the right and left as indicated by the small circles.
- Cut two pieces of string approximately 25 cm long each. For each string, form a loop and tie the two cut ends together.
- Thread the loop end through the hole; pass the knotted end through the loop and pull to fasten.
- To spin the disc, hold the strings and rotate the disc to wind the string. Let go of the disc and gently pull out on the strings. This will cause the disc to spin and you will see both images together. By pulling gently outward then releasing the tension slightly then pulling outward again will cause the disc to wind then unwind. This motion causes the disc to rotate, first in one direction and then in the opposite. The faster the disc rotates, the greater the clarity of the illusion.

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