Wind Watcher: Observe and Record

Adult setup, safety and discussion guide. No fixed observation answers.

Prepare safely

An adult chooses a calm-weather session in a safe open space, away from roads, water, overhead wires and other hazards. Stop if conditions become strong or uncomfortable. Use one broad strip of paper, about 3 cm wide and 15 cm long. No sticks, strings, pins, staples or small fasteners are needed. The adult keeps hold of one end throughout; children watch without putting it near their faces.

Keep the method similar

Use the same strip at the same safe spot. Hold it in the same way and at the same comfortable height, away from your body. Keep your hand still. Watch for about 10 seconds on three separate visits. Note the actual times. Do not blow on or shake the strip. Gather it up afterwards.

What counts as a result?

Accept a drawing and accurate spoken description of what the child really saw, including changing movement or “not sure”. This qualitative indicator does not measure wind speed. A hanging strip does not prove that there is no wind. Nearby obstacles, the strip and how it is held affect its movement. Do not infer compass direction from these pictures.

Discuss the records

Compare the three records. Were they similar, different or hard to compare? Ask the child to point to evidence in their table. There is no fixed weather answer. If no outdoor visit is suitable, postpone the investigation rather than inventing results.