Natural Cycles Theater Instructions

Make your own mini-movies of natural cycles. We have provided two films you can color to start. You can make more on your own.

Materials needed:
- A cardboard box, cereal boxes work best
- A toilet paper roll or a paper towel roll cut to 5 inches in length
- Colored pencils, pens or crayons
- A printout of the Natural Cycle Theater Template
- Pen or pencil
- Scissors
- Glue or glue stick
- Optional: Sample Films

How to make your theater:
1. Print the Natural Cycles Theater Template (print: fit to page)
2. Cut out the white rectangle in the center
3. Color in the Natural Cycles Theater Template
4. Cut open a cereal box so you have one large flat cardboard rectangle.
5. Place the theater template over the cardboard rectangle.
6. Use a pen or a pencil to draw the center rectangle on to the cardboard. Draw the outline of the entire paper onto the cardboard too.
7. Remove the template from the cardboard then cut the cardboard so it is the same size as the template using the outline you drew to guide you.
8. Cut along the two vertical lines you drew in the middle of the cardboard. **DO NOT** cut on the horizontal lines.
9. Glue the theater template on to the cardboard.

10. Push back the rectangle that you made from the center of the cardboard so the toilet paper roll can fit into the slat.
11. Make a cut lengthwise into the toilet paper roll leaving ¼ inch at either end so the roll stays whole.

Making a film:
1. Follow the directions on the Sample Films page.
2. You can create your own films using paper the same size as the sample films we have provided.
Directions
1. Cut along the straight solid lines
2. Color the pictures
3. Fold along the darker dot-dashed lines at the top and bottom.
4. Slip the folded ends into the slit in the toilet paper roll.
5. Put toilet paper roll into the slot of your movie theater and roll film!
6. You provide the sound! Tell the story of your film as you show it to your audience.

Other Film Ideas:
- The life cycle of a butterfly or a frog
- Phases of the moon
- The four seasons
- A flower ➔ fruit ➔ seed cycle
- An animal moving: a bird flapping its wings, a fish swimming, a dog running