

# The Science Behind: Spin Painting

Centrifugal force describes the tendency of an object following a curved path to fly away from the center point. In spin mixing the colors at the center of the paper are pushed outward when the salad spinner rotates, causing the colors to mix together. The concept of centrifugal force is used for things like the famous carnival ride the Round-Up, merry go rounds, and tetherball.

## Reflect:

Which direction is the paint going? Does it go towards the middle of the paper or does it go towards the edges of the paper?

Why do you think the paint is doing what it's doing?

Does changing the viscosity (thickness) of the paint have a different effect?

# Instructions:

1. Place a paper plate or piece of paper (trimmed using scissors) in the bottom on the salad spinner.



2. Add in a few drops of various colors of acrylic paint.



3. Give the salad spinner several spins! The more you spin, the more the paint mixes.



5. Open the spin painter and remove the paper. Let dry and enjoy your art!

