Rainbow Spinner

See what happens when you mix colours with a home made spinner

What you’ll need
- A spinner template
- Thin card
- Glue
- Coloured pencils or pens
- Small wooden dowel
- Plasticine

What to do

1. Cut out a spinner template and glue it onto some thin card.

2. Colour in the seven segments in the order:

   RED ORANGE YELLOW GREEN BLUE INDIGO VIOLET

3. Place the circle on the round of plasticine and make a hole in the middle with the point of a pencil

4. Slip a short piece of wooden dowel through the middle of the disk. Secure in place (about halfway down the dowel) using some plasticine

5. Now you can start your spinner spinning!

What colour do you see?

What’s happening?

When the spinner spins really fast you can see light reflected from all the colours but your brain cannot separate them and so you see a mix of all the colours, which is white!
A rainbow is a bit like the opposite of your rainbow spinner – when the sun shines through falling rain the white light gets split up into all the different colours as it passes through the water droplets.