

Making your mobile

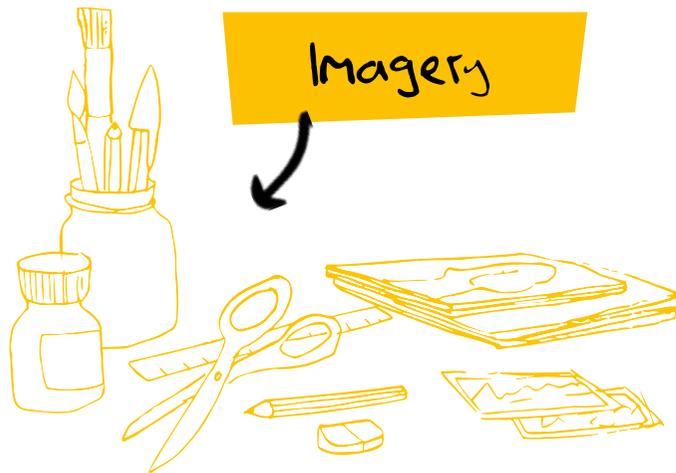
Once you have decided which type of mobile you are going to make, you need to think about the shapes that you are going to hang on your mobile and how you are going to represent all the elements you have chosen to include.

Shapes

The shapes can be made of coloured card, cereal boxes, stiffened fabric, felt, other food packaging, bits of thin wood or anything else you can find.



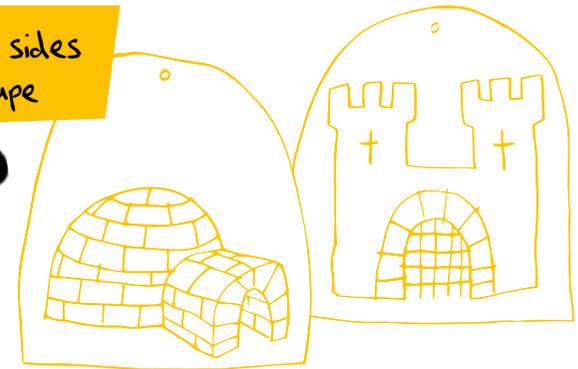
Imagery



How are you going to represent your chosen elements in your day dream generator? You could draw or paint them, or make collages using photos or imagery from old magazines, use wording (maybe cutting letters from the newspaper?) or photograph them.

Once you have chosen your shapes and made the images of your elements, you need to stick the images onto the shapes, ready to start making the mobile. You need a shape for each element (1 for the main character, 1 for the weather, 1 for the random object etc). Take two of your ideas for each heading and stick 1 on each side of your shape.

Example of the 2 sides of a 'place' shape



Example of the 2 sides of a 'weather' shape



Use the 'How to guide' assemble your mobile.

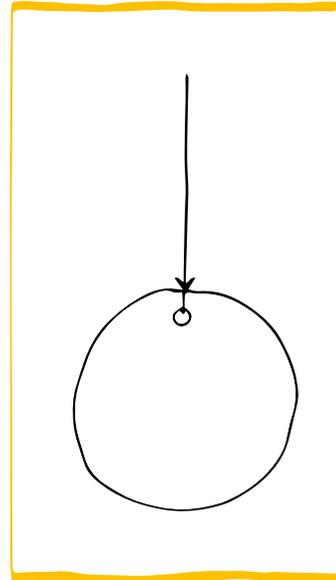
Let's make a mobile day dream generator!

You will need:

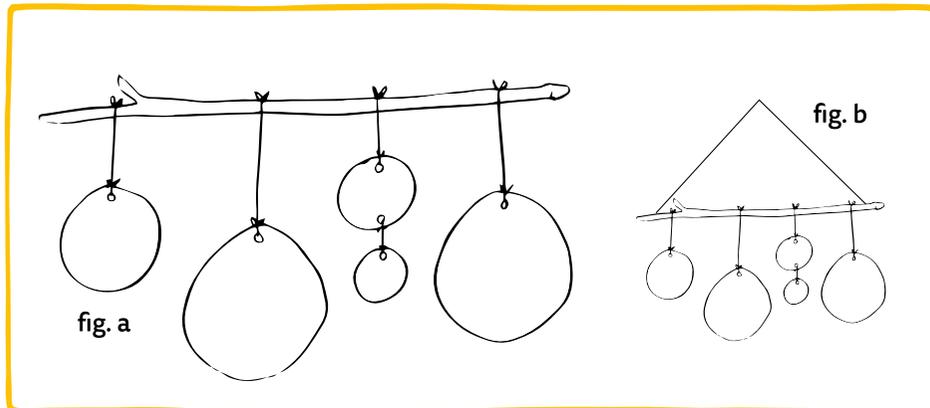
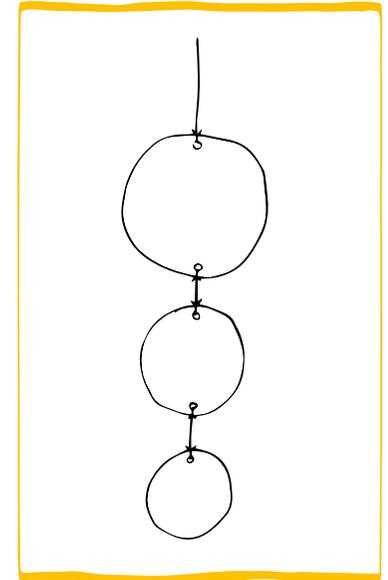
- All your shapes
- Fine thread
- Scissors
- PVA glue
- Sticks - these could be twigs, pencils, chopsticks, skewers, wire hangers, straws

1. When you build mobile you always start from the bottom and work up.

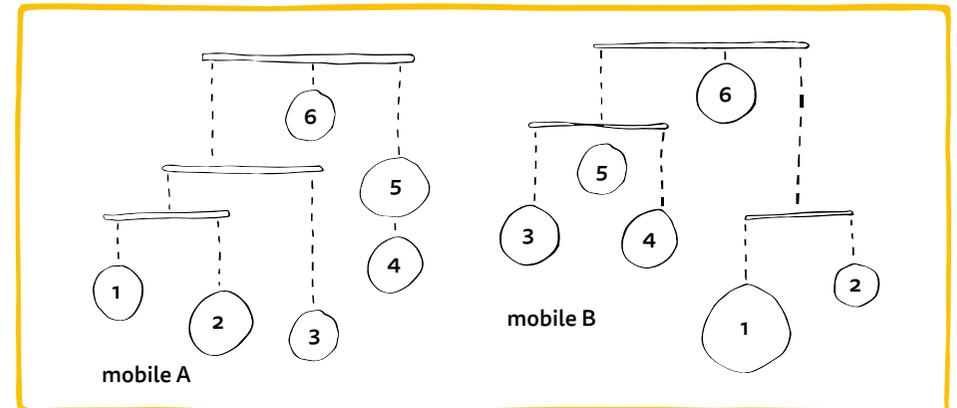
Begin by making a hole in the top of each of your shapes and attach a 20cm length of thread. You can shorten them later if you need to.



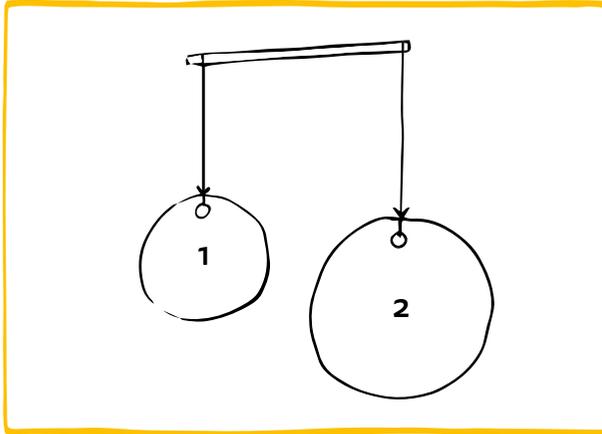
2. If you are making a cascade mobile, arrange the shapes in the order that you would like them to hang in. Now, apart from the bottom shape, make a hole in the bottom of each shape. Then attach the thread from the top of the bottom shape to the bottom of the next shape up. Continue until you have a chain of all your shapes.



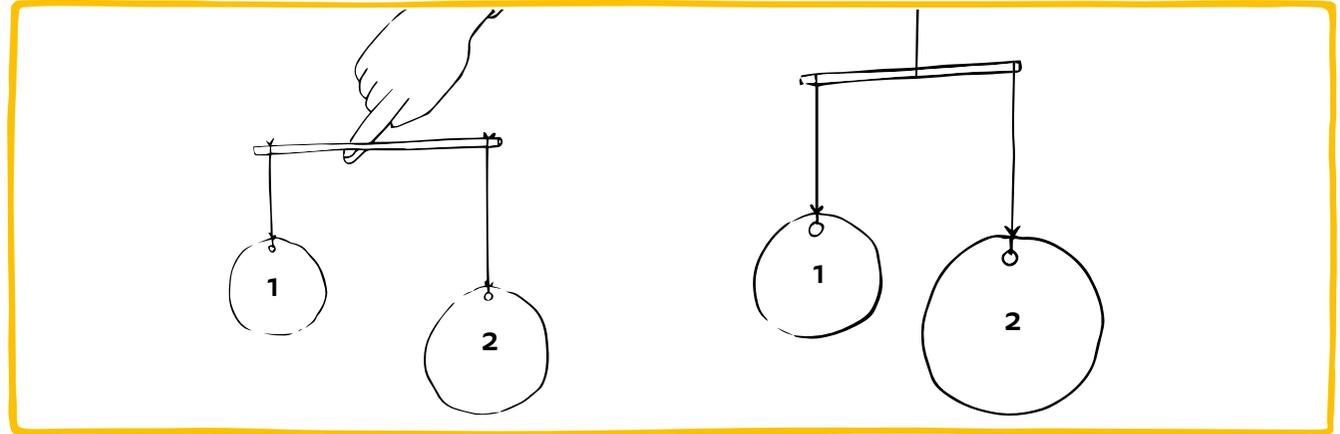
3. If you are going to hang your shapes from a twig. Attach each shape along the length of the twig (fig. a). Tie a piece of string that is twice as long as your twig to each end of your twig to hang it from (fig. b).



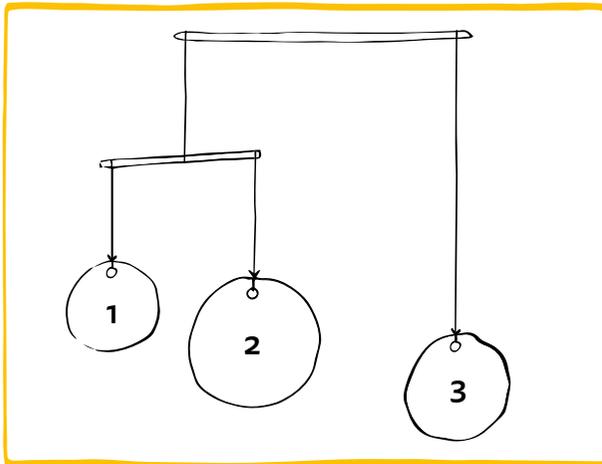
4. If you are going to make a balanced mobile arrange your shapes in the pattern you would like them to hang. Use three sticks in three different lengths.



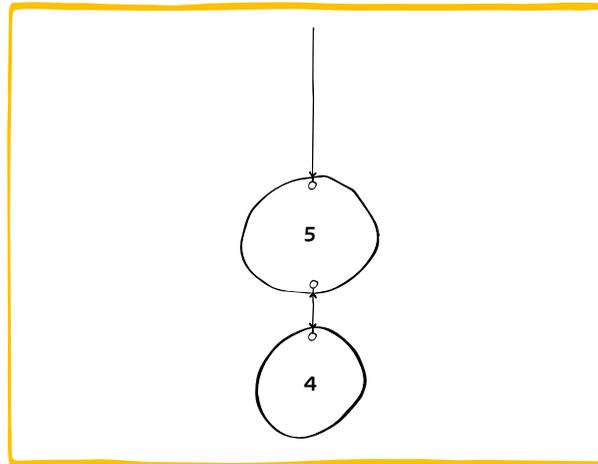
5. I'm going to show you how to make mobile A. Take two of your shapes and hang one on each end of your shortest stick.



6. Balance the stick on your finger, adjusting it until you find what is called the 'balance point'. If your shapes are the same size and weight this point will be roughly in the middle. If one is larger than the other the balance point will usually be closer to the larger shape. Once you have found the point mark it and tie a length of thread here. Make any final adjustments and glue it in position.

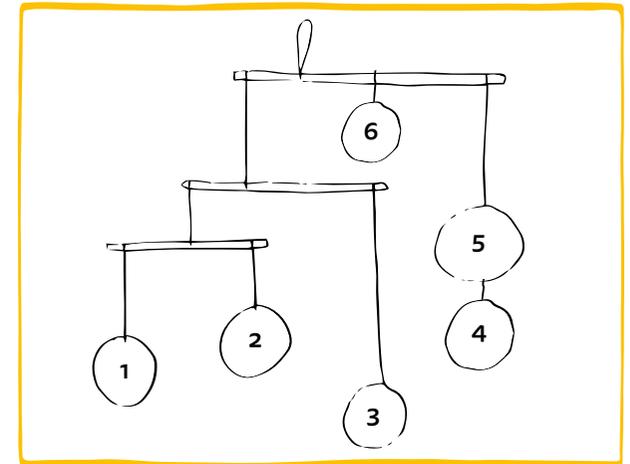


7. Now attach shape 3 to one end of your medium length stick with a length of thread that allows it to hang beneath the shapes on the short stick. Attach the thread from your short stick to the other end of your medium stick.



8. Find the balance point on your medium stick, mark it and attach a length of thread. Make your final adjustments and glue into position.

9. Attach shape 4 to shape 5 and then tie a long thread to the top of shape 5.



10. Attach shapes 4 and 5 to one end of your longest stick. Then attach your medium stick to the other end of the long one. Tie shape 6 onto the middle of the long stick. Find the balance point, mark it and tie a loop in this position. Glue it into position and hang it up!