

Pinwheels of **POSSIBILITY**



Prevent Child Abuse
Wyoming
Centering families through every turn.



WYChildren's
TRUST FUND
Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect

Wyoming Children's Trust Fund / Prevent Child Abuse
Wyoming Presents

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION 2026 TOOLKIT



Introduction

The Wyoming Children's Trust Fund and Prevent Child Abuse Wyoming would like to introduce our 2026 theme of this year's Child Abuse Prevention Month:

Pinwheels of possibility



**POWERED
BY HOPE**
STRENGTHENED BY PREVENTION



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Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect



**Prevent Child Abuse
Wyoming**
Centering families through every turn.

**Pinwheels of
POSSIBILITY**

A message from Prevent Child Abuse Wyoming

Children and families are at the heart of Wyoming. In our small towns, on our ranches, across tribal communities, and in our growing cities, we know that neighbors show up for one another. That spirit of connection is what makes prevention possible.

This April, during Child Abuse Prevention Month, we recognize that child abuse and neglect are preventable when families have the support they need. The 2026 theme, *Pinwheels of Possibility*, reminds us that when the conditions are right and we invest in strong relationships, reduce stress, and strengthen community supports, children can grow up safe, stable, and thriving.

In Wyoming, we value independence, but we also understand that no family is meant to do it alone. Prevention is not about blame. It's about partnership. It is about creating strong systems, supportive policies, and community-led solutions that uplift families before challenges become crises.

Every conversation, every supportive relationship, and every investment in families creates a ripple effect across our state. When we strengthen families, we strengthen Wyoming.

We invite you to join us in supporting this cause by participating in toolkit activities, sharing prevention messages, and standing alongside families in visible and meaningful ways. For all CAP Month events and social media posts, please use: **#CAPMonth2026**
#WYKIDSMATTER #PinwheelsofPossibility



Please review the sample proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month (pages 4 and 5).

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH PROCLAMATION

April 1, 2026

WHEREAS, Prevention is possible. With strong policies and investments, families and children can thrive, fostering prevention, stability and long-term well-being;

WHEREAS, the early experiences of a child impact them throughout life – both positively and negatively;

WHEREAS, supporting families early reduces the need for a crisis response, improves lifelong outcomes, strengthens communities, and saves public dollars and costly downstream interventions across multiple systems;

WHEREAS, every family and child is filled with tremendous promise, and we all have a collective responsibility to prevent Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), foster the potential of every child, and promote Positive Childhood Experiences;

WHEREAS, Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs)—such as loving caregivers and safe, stable, and nurturing relationships—play a vital role in helping children thrive by mitigating trauma and the negative impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs);

WHEREAS, families who receive the support they need before a crisis occurs are better equipped to provide safe, healthy, and nurturing environments, leading to children who are safer, healthier, and more hopeful about their futures;

WHEREAS, childhood trauma, including abuse and neglect, can have long-term psychological, emotional, and physical effects throughout an individual's lifetime and impact future generations;

WHEREAS, primary prevention of child abuse and neglect can reduce the lifetime economic burden associated with child maltreatment;

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention activities succeed because of the partnerships created between child welfare professionals, education, health, community- and faith-based organizations, businesses, law enforcement agencies, and families;

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that we must work together as a community to increase awareness about what families need before they are in crisis and contribute to promoting the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment;

WHEREAS, investments in primary prevention initiatives—such as early childhood home visiting programs like Healthy Families America, policies that promote economic stability and mobility, and community-based child abuse prevention efforts— reduce the likelihood of abuse and neglect and ensure children have the foundation for lifelong well-being; and

WHEREAS, we can prevent child abuse and neglect before it happens.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, _____, [Title and Jurisdiction], do hereby proclaim April 2026 as CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH in [State or Jurisdiction] and urge all citizens to recognize that child abuse is preventable and that a healthy and prosperous society depends on strong families and communities.

Together, we can create a state invested in families where every child deserves to live a purposeful and happy life with hope for their future.

Connect with us!



Show your support:

Every Monday, we invite you to wear boots of any fashion and show your support for child abuse prevention! Share your boots on social media and use the hashtags: **#CAPMonth2026 #WYKIDSMATTER**

#PinwheelsOfPossibility #MomentOfPossibility (Figure 4)

Similarly, Fridays we encourage you to wear blue and share those photos and help spread the positive message of preventing child abuse. (Figures 2 & 3)

Below are some graphics (Figures 1.1 & 1.2) that you or your organization can post with on social media of why you support child abuse prevention month!

♥ *Why I wear blue...* ♥

**CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION
MONTH 2026**



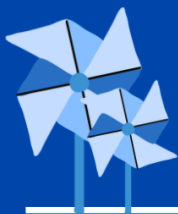
WYOMING CHILDREN'S
TRUST FUND



@preventchildabusewyoming

Figure 1.1

*I planted a pinwheel
today because...*



**CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION
MONTH 2026**



WYOMING CHILDREN'S
TRUST FUND



@preventchildabusewyoming

Figure 1.2

Planting Pinwheels



The pinwheel represents our efforts to change the way our nation thinks about prevention, focusing on strengthening families before crises arise. By addressing the pressures families face, we create conditions for children to thrive while keeping families together.

With families at the center, each turn of the pinwheel represents the systems, programs, policies, and everyday acts of care that strengthen families and help them thrive. From home visiting to health and economic policy, every turn unlocks new possibilities, showing how supportive systems and communities expand what's possible for every child and family.

In many ways, the pinwheel is a call to action, highlighting the shared responsibility all our cross-sector partners have in centering and empowering families.

Please join us on April 7th at 2:30PM on the capitol lawn for the Governor's Proclamation Event, followed by pinwheel planting to kick off the 2026 season!

Calendar Events

We also encourage participation in our calendar of events. There are family-friendly, simple activities that are meant to take the burden out of family time spent together. Please follow the calendar on our webpage for more information of these fun-filled activities and games!

Pinwheels of Possibility

Trainings & Webinars

Below is the scheduled trainings for topics like Adverse Childhood Experiences and Protective Factors. Please follow the Google Meet links and codes to join us!

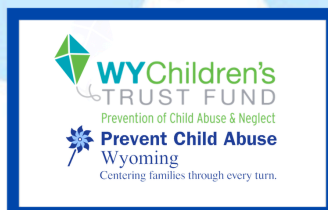
| | | | | |
|---------|---------|--|-------------------------------|---|
| 4/8/26 | 10-11am | Adverse Childhood Experiences | Wyoming Children's Trust Fund | Join Google Meet: meet.google.com/vcd-rrcp-msk Join by phone: 513-818-1159 PIN: 247240554 |
| 4/13/26 | 10-11am | Protective Factors Series: Parent Resilience | Wyoming Children's Trust Fund | Join Google Meet: meet.google.com/pyq-ugsw-zwi Join by phone: 573-375-5089 PIN: 402861733 |
| 4/14/26 | 10-11am | Protective Factors Series: Knowledge of Parenting & Child Development | Wyoming Children's Trust Fund | Join Google Meet: meet.google.com/yyz-fwdd-yvj Join by phone: 334-472-8139 PIN: 784816745 |
| 4/15/26 | 10-11am | Protective Factors Series: Concrete Support in Times of Need | Wyoming Children's Trust Fund | Join Google Meet: meet.google.com/mae-eaih-fqj Join by phone: 414-909-7105 PIN: 407014764 |
| 4/16/26 | 10-11am | Protective Factors Series: Social & Emotional Competence of Children | Wyoming Children's Trust Fund | Join Google Meet: meet.google.com/hgz-wutw-fpx Join by phone: 347-354-9699 PIN: 527530121 |
| 4/17/26 | 10-11am | Protective Factors Series: Social Connections | Wyoming Children's Trust Fund | Join Google Meet: meet.google.com/cet-iuhp-qem Join by phone: 218-301-2645 PIN: 940428631 |

APRIL 2026

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  | | | 1 Call a friend or family member | 2 PB & J Day Make one for lunch | 3 Friday: Wear blue! | 4 Build your own pinwheel |
| 5 Science experiment | 6 Monday: Wear your boots! | 7 Write a poem or story | 8 Exercise as a family | 9 Pinwheel sandwich for lunch | 10 Wear Blue Day! | 11 Movie Night with family |
| 12 take a family/friend photo | 13 wear boots for prevention | 14 Color a pinwheel | 15 Dance Party! | 16 High 5 someone for High 5 Day | 17 Wear your blue today! | 18 Game Night! |
| 19 Chalk art | 20 wear your boots | 21 Visit the library or read a book | 22 Earth day! Go outside | 23 Give someone you love a hug | 24 Friday blue day! | 25 Bake your favorite cookies |
| 26 Meet your neighbors! | 27 wear boots today | 28 Science experiment | 29 Write a thank you card | 30 watch the sunset | | |



#CAPMonth2026
#PinwheelsOfPossibility



#WYkidsMatter
#MomentOfPossibility

Activity Calendar: Day 1-15

Follow the descriptions below that match our April 2026 CAP month calendar!

Day 1: Kickoff CAP month by calling a friend or family member. Connecting with loved ones is important and can strengthen your support system.

Day 2: Make a PB&J! Celebrate national peanut butter and jelly day by making a PB&J for lunch with your child.

Day 3: On Fridays wear blue (Figure 3) to raise awareness and help spread the positive message of child abuse prevention. You can also share our "Why I Wear Blue" graphic with a picture of you wearing blue to show support for child abuse prevention month along with these hashtags: **#CAPMonth2026 #WYKIDSMATTER #PinwheelsofPossibility**

Day 4: Build your own pinwheel for prevention using our simple instructions (Figure 5). Pinwheels represent childlike whimsy and lightheartedness and our vision for a world where all children grown up happy, healthy, and prepared to succeed in supportive families and communities. Pose with Figure 1.2 and your new pinwheel! **#PinwheelsOfPossibility**

Day 5: Science Experiment! Follow the instructions for the fun rain clouds science experiment (Figure 9) with family or friends.

Day 6: On Monday wear boots (Figure 4) to show support for child abuse prevention. To further raise awareness of child abuse prevention month, share your boots on social media and use the hashtags: **#CAPMonth2026 #WYKIDSMATTER #PinwheelsofPossibility**

Day 7: Write a poem or story! Did you know that April is also national poetry month? Flex those brain muscles by writing a poem or story with a loved one.

Day 8: Exercise as a family by picking your favorite way to stay active. Walking around the block, biking, or even swimming can be great ways to engage with family as a team!

Day 9: Pinwheel Sandwiches for lunch! Follow the pinwheel sandwich recipe (Figure 7) to have a delicious lunch celebrating child abuse prevention. Snap a picture of it and Figure 1.2!

Day 10: On Friday wear blue! See Figure 3 to share using these hashtags: **#CAPMonth2026 #WYKIDSMATTER #PinwheelsofPossibility**

Day 11: Movie night! Spend the evening with family or friends by watching your favorite movie.

Day 12: Take a photo with a friend or a family member and put it on your fridge to remind you of your loved ones and the fun times you share.

Day 13: It's Monday! Wear your boots and see Figure 4 to share using these hashtags: **#CAPMonth2026 #WYKIDSMATTER #PinwheelsofPossibility**

Day 14: Color a pinwheel for prevention! Print our pinwheel coloring sheet (Figure 6) to make a beautiful design and hang it up on the fridge! Take a picture with your new drawing & Figure 1.2!

Day 15: Have a dance party! Choose your favorite playlist to dance to with family or friends.

Activity Calendar: Day 16-30

Follow the descriptions below that match our April 2026 CAP month calendar!

Day 16: It's National High Five Day! Have a positively impact on people's day and high five everyone you interact with today!

Day 17: On Friday wear blue! See Figure 3 to share using these hashtags: **#CAPMonth2026 #WYKIDSMATTER #PinwheelsofPossibility**

Day 18: Game night! Choose a fun game to play with family or friends.

Day 19: Create an artistic masterpiece using sidewalk chalk! Creating art can be a fun way to practice expression and build relationships.

Day 20: It's Monday! Wear your boots and see Figure 4 to share using these hashtags: **#CAPMonth2026 #WYKIDSMATTER #PinwheelsofPossibility**

Day 21: Visit the Library or read a book! Visit your library and read with your child to connect with community and strengthen connection.

Day 22: It's Earth Day! Spend some time soaking up the sunshine by volunteering your time outside. Picking up loose trash or planting wildflower seeds are great ways to connect with the world around you.

Day 23: Give someone you love a hug! Hugging can be a great way to express care and give support.

Day 24: On Friday wear blue! See Figure 3 to share using these hashtags: **#CAPMonth2026 #WYKIDSMATTER #PinwheelsofPossibility**

Day 25: Bake your favorite cookies! Use our classic chocolate chip cookie recipe (Figure 8) for a delicious way to practice new skills with your child.

Day 26: Meet your neighbors! Neighbors can be a great source for community and support! **#WYHOMEMATTERS #CAPMONTH2026**

Day 27: It's Monday! Wear your boots and see Figure 4 to share using these hashtags: **#CAPMonth2026 #WYKIDSMATTER #PinwheelsofPossibility**

Day 28: Science Experiment! Follow the instructions for the fun skittles rainbow science experiment (Figure 10) with family or friends.

Day 29: Write a thank you card to someone special. Expressing thanks can strengthen relationships and support systems.

Day 30: Watch the sunset with friends or family to celebrate the day and end the month right! **#CAPMonth2026 #WYKIDSMATTER #PinwheelsofPossibility**



Barbara Sinatra
CHILDREN'S CENTER

Barbara Sinatra
CHILDREN'S CENTER FOUNDATION

Our "Fight Child Abuse" campaign is an abuse prevention initiative with free animated resources for children ages 5-18. The animation lessons are available at www.FightChildAbuse.org and on YouTube.

Every April, The Barbara Sinatra Children's Center Foundation recognizes National Child Abuse Prevention Month. It is our mission to protect children all year round.

The nonprofit [Barbara Sinatra Children's Center Foundation](http://www.BarbaraSinatraChildrensCenterFoundation.org) in conjunction with [Wonder Media](http://www.WonderMedia.com) and the Joshua Center on Child Sexual Abuse at the University of Washington developed this global campaign on child abuse awareness and prevention. The program has been developed and scripted by child advocates, therapists, and national scholars.

The objective of the program is to educate all ages of children about what to do when confronted with abusive behavior such as safe and unsafe touches and other physical and emotional abuse.

Every animation video, in each age appropriate series, emphasizes the importance of going to a parent or another trusted adult when confronted with an unsafe situation.

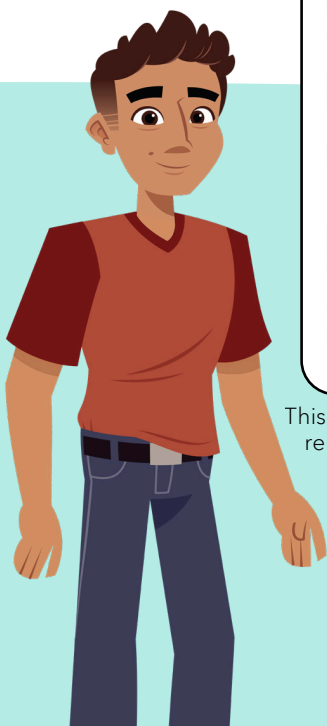
Learn more by scanning the QR codes below:



This link takes you to the animated lessons and related resources for FightChildAbuse.org



This link contains a detailed history of the success of FightChildAbuse.org



Mike Nelson

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PAINT YOUR TOWN BLUE

CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS

Community Awareness

Community awareness goes a long way in protecting kids. When communities are informed, we build safer environments, more educated juries, and more engaged citizens who recognize and respond to abuse.

Community Ideas:

- Host a Child Abuse 101 talk
- Plant Blue Pinwheels in community areas
- Turn the county & city building lights blue
- Hang blue lights in windows
- Host a paint run/walk
- Local art council or student art class paint pinwheels on windows/sidewalks
- Radio & newspapers invite local experts to produce a piece on awareness
- Parent night: "How to Talk to Your Child About Safety."

Business Ideas

- Offer a Blue Deal with a % off
- Offer a blue drink item and donate proceeds to a child-serving group
- Place a blue child abuse sticker on items or receipts

Social Media Campaign:

- I wear blue because
- Share child abuse statistics
- Share helpful resources
- Spotlight local child serve groups



WEAR BLUE

for Prevention



Join us in wearing **blue** every Friday of April, Child Abuse Prevention Month!



BLUE FOR PREVENTION!



Wear **BLUE** every
Friday for the
month of April to
show support for
Child Abuse
Prevention Month!



#CAPMONTH2026
#WYKIDSMATTER

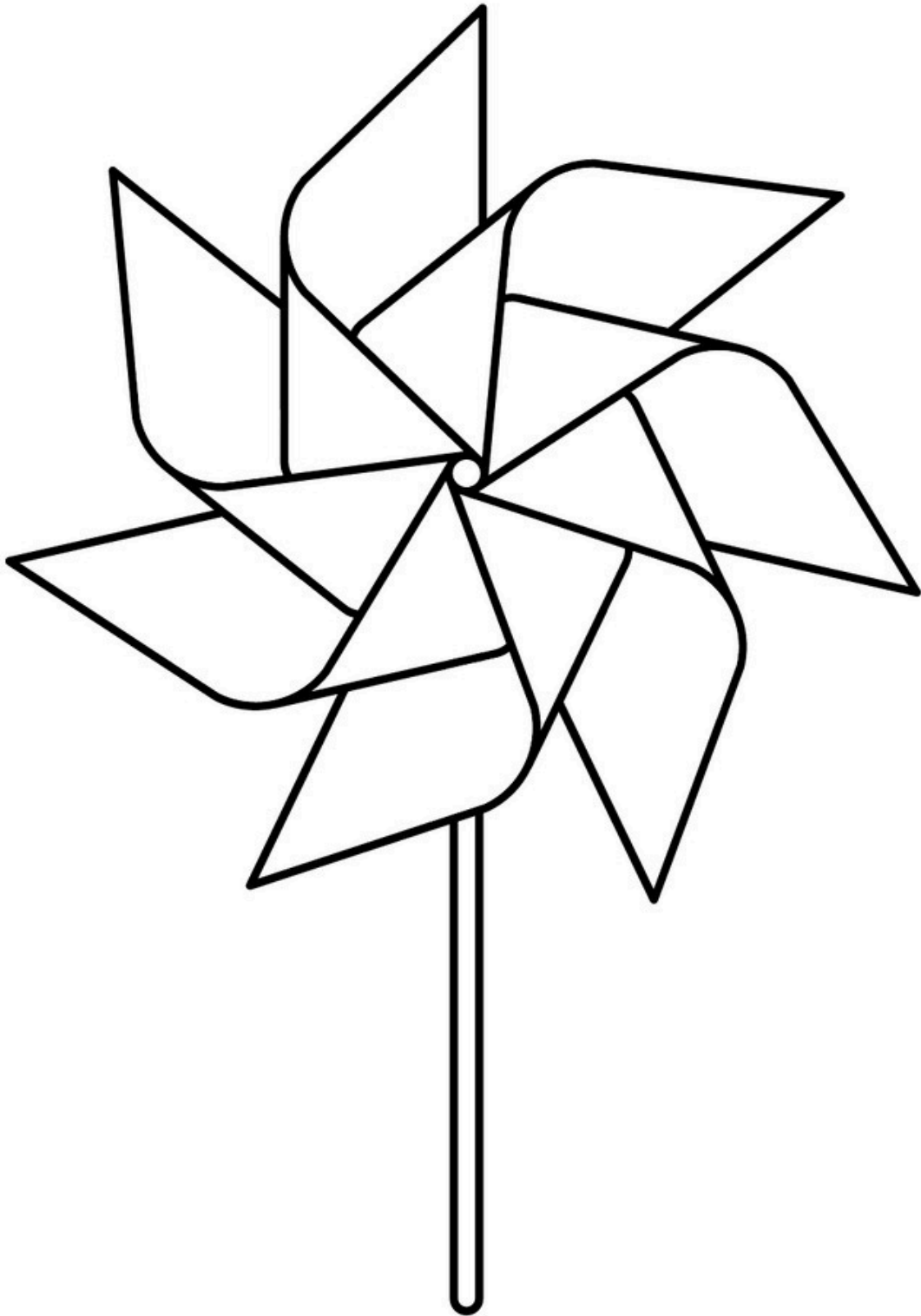


BOOTS FOR PREVENTION



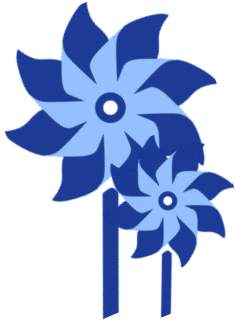
Whatever your preferred style of boot, rock them every Monday of April!

Pinwheels of POSSIBILITY



COLORING SHEET





PINWHEEL SANDWICHES

#WYKIDSMATTER
#CAPMONTH2026

TURKEY + CHEESE PINWHEELS

- 1 tortilla of your choice
- 1 ounce deli turkey
- 1 ounce sliced cheese
- 1/4 cup shredded lettuce
- 2 tablespoons mayo or mustard

STRAWBERRY + NUTELLA PINWHEELS

- 1 whole wheat tortilla or flatbread
- 2 tablespoons Nutella, peanut butter, or sun butter
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced strawberries

VEGGIE + HUMMUS PINWHEELS

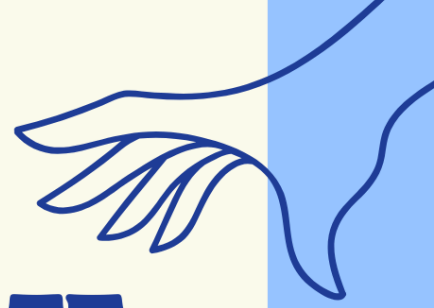
- 1 whole wheat tortilla
- 1/4 cup hummus
- 1/4 cup matchstick slices of cucumber, shredded lettuce, bell pepper, and/or carrots

HOW TO MAKE:

- Place wrap on a cutting board. If not at room temperature, warm for 5-10 seconds in the microwave so it's pliable and easy to roll.
- Spread on any condiments, nut butters, or hummus.
- Top with the fruit, veggies, and/or protein.
- Starting at one side, roll up, keeping the tortilla as tight as possible.
- Use a serrated knife to cut into rounds or just in half, depending on your preference.



Child Abuse Prevention Month



CLASSIC CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES



Ingredients:

- 8 Tbs salted butter
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1/4 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 egg
- 1 1/2 cups all purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup chocolate chips



Steps:

1. **Preheat oven:** Preheat oven to 350° and prepare a baking sheet with parchment paper. Melt butter in the microwave for about 30 seconds.
2. **Beat butter & sugar:** In a large bowl, beat butter, white sugar, and brown sugar until light and creamy.
3. **Add Eggs and Vanilla:** Add eggs one at a time, beat well, then add vanilla extract.
4. **Mix dry ingredients:** In the same bowl, add flour, baking soda, and salt. Mix until crumbs form and it starts to look like cookie dough!
5. **Add chocolate chips:** Stir the chocolate chips into the batter until evenly distributed.
6. **Shape the dough:** Using a spoon or your hands, shape the dough into small balls, then place on the baking sheet with space between the cookies. This will make about 12 cookies.
7. **Bake:** Bake for 9-11 minutes
8. **Cool:** Let the cookies cool on the pan for 5 minutes before transferring to a cooling rack



RAIN CLOUDS

SCIENCE EXPERIMENT



MATERIALS

- Clear jar or cup
- Water
- Shaving cream
- Blue food coloring
- Spoon or dropper

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Fill a jar almost all the way with water.
2. Add shaving cream on top of water.
3. Add food coloring to the “clouds” with a dropper or spoon.
4. Watch as the “rain” falls from the cloud!

Figure 8

MATERIALS

- White plate
- Skittles (just a few!)
- Warm water



Science Experiment

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Arrange the Skittles in your favorite pattern around the rim of the plate.
2. Pour a bit of warm water in the center of the plate, enough to reach the Skittles rim.
3. Wait and watch the rainbow appear!

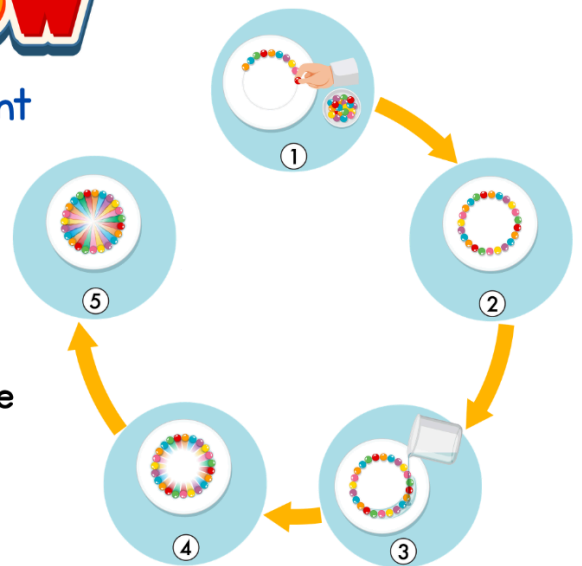


Figure 9

Build Your Own Pinwheel for Prevention

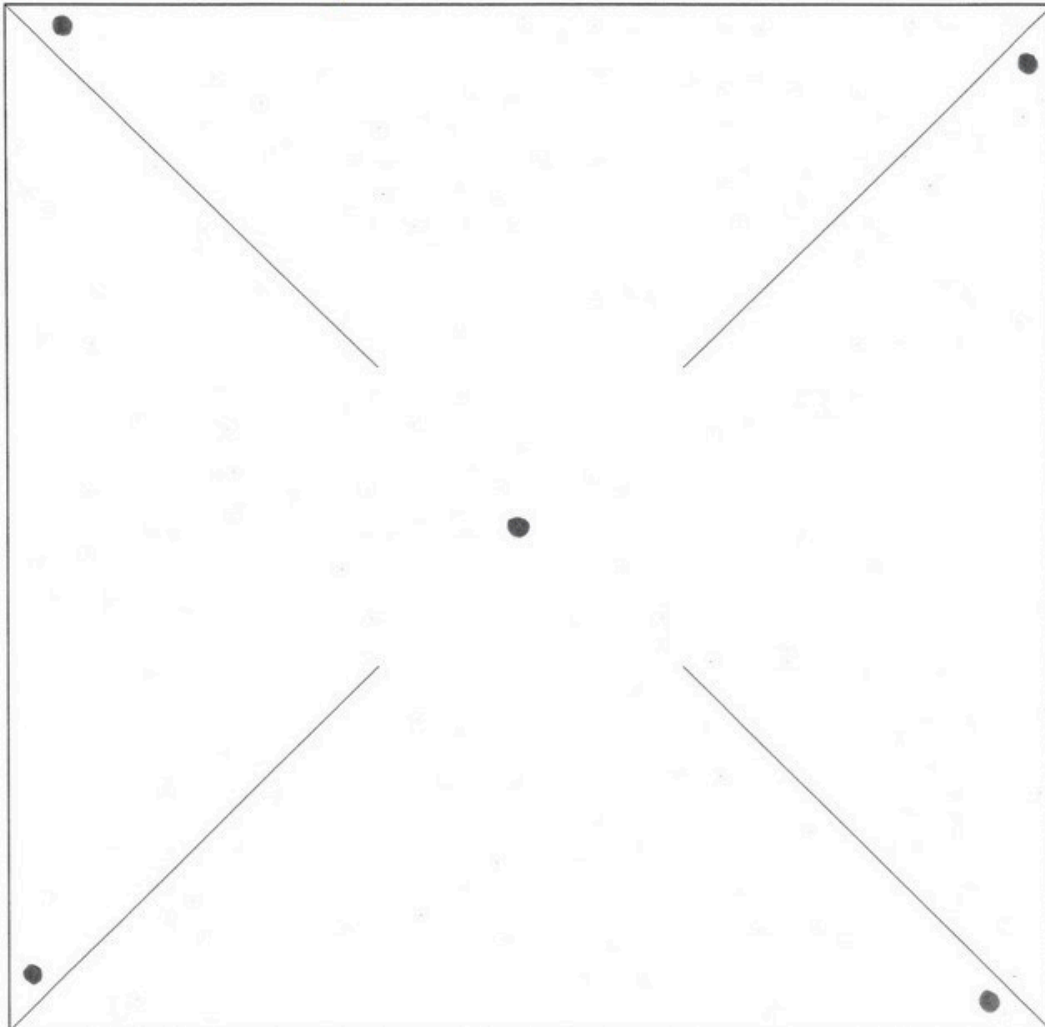


Materials

1 square piece of paper, 1 regular straw, 1 brad, and 2 washers (Optional)

Instructions

1. Cut out the box below.
2. Cut the diagonal lines on the square to make the blades.
3. Punch holes in one corner of each blade.
4. Punch hole in the end of a regular straw.
5. Fold over the blades and push brad through the holes.
6. Poke brad through the center of the pinwheel.
7. Slide through washer #1.
8. Slide through straw.
9. Slide through washer #2.
10. Fold out the flaps of the brad.



Try special designs

Circles, Stripes,
Different Colors,
Flowers
Faces, Star Bursts



CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

PROTECTIVE FACTORS

“[Protective factors] are the strengths that help to buffer and support families.”

Child welfare workers should be informed about the importance of protective factors and how they can influence children, youth, and families. This includes:

- Community support
- Parenting competencies
- Economic opportunities

Figure 11

**With families
at the center,
the possibilities
are *endless*.**



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 **Prevent Child Abuse**
Wyoming
Centering families through every turn.

