Alternative Mobile Design

Materials List

Each group needs:

- 1 plastic dinner plate (~7-inch diameter)
- Construction paper
- Markers
- Scissors
- Tape
- String (and hole punch, listed below) (or needle and thread)

For the entire class to share:

• Hole punch

Procedure

- 1. Have the student teams use the paper, markers and scissors to design 6-10 cut-out figures to attach to the mobile. These can be varying shapes and sizes (see Activity Extensions section for an idea).
- 2. Have the students prepare their paper figures by punching a hole into each and attaching a string (or needle and thread). Each figure should have a string for hanging it.
- 3. Have the students tape their cut-out figures to the top of the plate (see the drawing above) so their mobile is balanced. Students should take into account the center of mass and downward forces while connecting the mobile components. It helps if strings are placed equal distances along the perimeter of the plate.
- 4. Have each student team present their mobile design to the class.

