

You can't see wind but you can feel it, and you can see what it does to leaves and hairdos when it blows by. What is the wind doing today?



WIND

PLACE

Wind is air in motion. Hot air is lighter; it tends to rise. Cold air is heavier; it sinks. Winds blow when hot air and cold air move over and under each other as the Earth rotates.

Winds blow at different speeds—sometimes they are pleasant breezes, at other times dangerous hurricanes. Strong winds can be helpful too. Windmills take wind power to work machines or produce electricity.

The shape of our streets and buildings affects how the wind blows around us. When you walk through your neighborhood or playground, what changes do you notice in the way the wind blows in different places?

WIND

PLACE

○  
You kick a soccer  
ball. It flies.  
You score!

What does it  
take to get  
a ball going?



KICKING

PLAY

It's a rule of moving things: It takes force—push or pull—to move an object in any direction. The harder you kick, the farther the ball moves down the field. You probably have noticed that it takes more force to move a heavy object than it does to move a light one. So it's easier to kick a soccer ball than, say, a bowling ball (less painful too).

Another rule says that for every action, an equal force acts in the opposite direction. Try this: Sit still on a swing holding a ball. Toss the ball straight out in front of you. What happens to your body and the swing?

KICKING

PLAY