

My Season Sky Wheel — Extension Instructions (K–2)

Make a Season Sky Wheel

Students will make a wheel that turns to show the sky in every season. When Students get back to winter, it starts all over again!

Students need:

- 2 paper plates
- 1 brad fastener
- Crayons or markers
- Scissors (a grown-up helps with cutting)
- A pencil

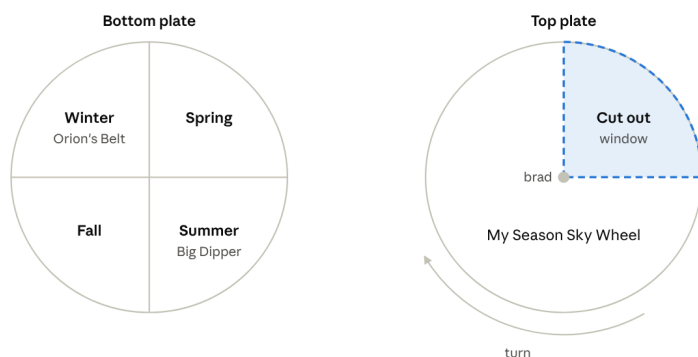
What to Draw

Student's bottom plate has four parts, one for each season. In each part, draw something that shows the season and the stars they might see those nights.

Season	Draw something for the season	Draw the night sky
Winter	snow, a coat, or a snowman	Orion's Belt: 3 stars in a line
Spring	flowers or rain	Student's choice: what do you think?
Summer	the sun, a pool, or a beach	The Big Dipper: a big spoon
Fall	leaves or a pumpkin	Your choice: what do you think?

What It Looks Like

The top plate turns so one season shows through the window



Sky wheel layout • bottom plate and top plate

The seasons go around the bottom plate in order. The window in the top plate shows one season at a time.

How to Build It

1. Draw a big plus sign on the bottom plate to make four parts.
2. Write the seasons in order going around the plate: Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall.
3. Draw your pictures in each part (see What to Draw).
4. A grown-up cuts a window in the top plate the size of one part, like one slice of pizza.
5. Write your name and "My Season Sky Wheel" on the top plate.
6. Put the top plate on the bottom plate. A grown-up pushes the brad through the middle of both plates and opens it in the back.
7. Turn the top plate. Watch the seasons go by!

Turn and Talk

Turn your wheel to each season and tell a partner:

- Turn to winter. What stars can you see?
- Turn to summer. Is Orion's Belt still there?
- Keep turning past fall. What season comes next?

Circle one: When I turn past fall, I get back to **winter** **summer**

Teacher Notes

- Prep ahead: draw the plus sign on the bottom plates and cut the windows in the top plates before class. This saves time for K–1.
- Make the window the same size as one part, so only one season shows at a time.
- Spring and fall were not shown in the dome. Let students draw any stars they like there. For Grade 2, ask them to predict what they might see.
- The big idea to repeat: the sky changes with the seasons, and then it starts over again every year.
- Adapted from the Dipper Finder rotating wheel in STARLAB "Astro and More" Binder, K–6 Activities: How to Use a Dipper Finder (p. B-27) and Dipper Finder Pattern and Instructions (p. B-29).