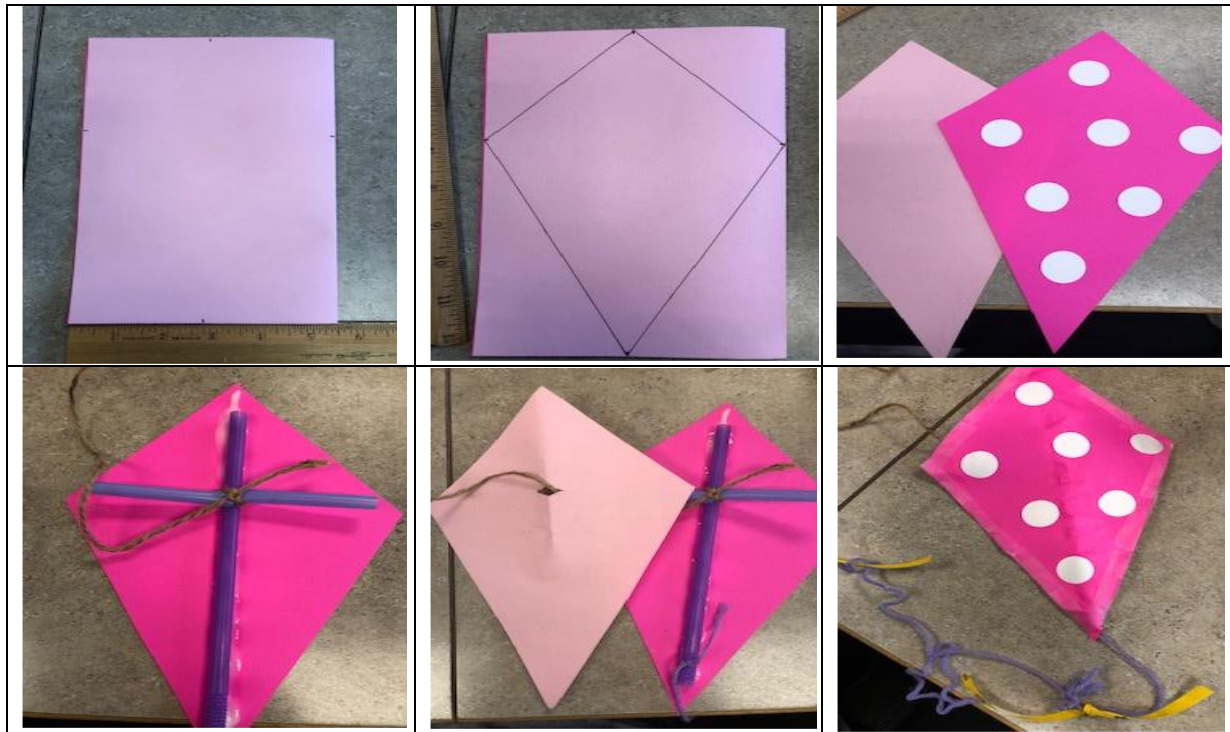


This is Ms. Susan from the Shorewood Public Library. Wednesday, April 12 this year is National Big Wind Day. We will celebrate this day in recognition of the highest natural wind gust measured on Earth of 231 miles per hour. This was recorded at the Mount Washington Observatory in New Hampshire in 1934. High winds have been known to create immense destruction and reminds us of the power of nature. There are also good things to come with big winds like turbine wind power for sustainable energy. Flying kites is another positive from big winds. So let's make a kite and celebrate National Big Wind Day! Hopefully the winds will be right to "Go fly a kite".



1-Choose a colored piece of paper or plain white, 8 1/2 by 11. Fold it in half on the long edge. On the long side, measure 4 inches down on both sides from the top. Draw a line from the middle point at the top to the side 4 "point on both sides. Decorate the outside of the kite as you like. If you have straws, cut one just a bit smaller than the length of the kite and one a bite shorter than the width of the kite. If you do not have straws, you can roll up paper and make a tube. Tie your kite string around the longer straw. Tie a light piece of string or yarn on the bottom of the long straw for the kite tail. Glue the straw down to the back side of the kite paper. Tie the cross straw on with a knot. Glue the ends of this straw down to the back of the kite to form a cross bow.

2-Cut a second kite just a bit larger than the first to fit over the straws. Cut a small hole in the second kite at the point of where the two lines meet. Pull the middle string through the hole. Glue this kite onto the back with the straws. Try to make the edges meet all around. You can secure the edges with tape or staples. Add tape around the edge of the hole by the string to reinforce it. Tie cross pieces of yarn, string, or ribbon to the tail to add balance. You now have a mini-kite to go fly when the big winds come! You can make two kites and share with a friend or family member. Hang a bunch of kites in the window to celebrate spring.



Let's go fly a kite! –

Ms. Susan.