



## THE TRUE STORY OF THE THREE LITTLE PIGS

by  
Jon Scieszka

Alexander T. Wolf appears to have to have no idea of the wind speed generated by his sneeze. If he had, he could have kept himself out of a great deal of trouble by staying home and buying a birthday cake for his dear old granny.

Kite-flying enthusiasts use a wind speed instrument to judge how fast the air is moving. They use the position of the string on the protractor to find the approximate angle to which the wind is moving the ball. Once the angle is measured, they use the following data to determine wind speed. Could the speed of the wolf's sneeze be greater than 80 degrees?

|     |          |
|-----|----------|
| 8°  | Light    |
| 20° | Gentle   |
| 40° | Moderate |
| 62° | Fresh    |
| 75° | Strong   |
| 80° | Go Home  |

**MATERIALS:** protractor pattern (or protractor), heavy or corrugated cardboard, thread, tape, scissors, table-tennis balls

**ACTIVITY:** Cut out protractor pattern and glue it firmly to cardboard as shown in diagram with its straight edge along one of the long sides of the cardboard. Attach one end of a 30 cm piece of thread to the table-tennis ball with a small piece of tape. Attach the other end of the string to the dot at top of the protractor. Go outside and feel the wind with your body. Then measure the angle on the protractor and determine wind speed. If wind is gusty, make three or four measurements and take an average.

**SOURCE:** Kite workshop given by Chuck Matlock, Comstock Park, MI, at Sacred Heart University, and Delta Science Module Weather Forecasting and Weather

Instruments.

**STANDARDS:**

**BSL:** 1.1, 1.3, 2.1, 4.4, 6.3, 9.7, 11.2, 11.4, 12.1, 12.3, 12.5

**NCTM:** 1a, 1c, 3b, 5d, 10a, 10b, 10c, 10d

**SCS:** A1, B1, B2, E1, F5, H2, H3, H4

Scieszka, Jon. The True Story of the Three Little Pigs. Penguin Books USA Inc., 1969. ISBN#0-670-82759-2.

