Early Animation

Harry Houdini became involved with the film industry in its earliest years, acting, producing, and even researching new film technology. Did you know that there was pre-film animation? One of these devices is called a **thaumatrope**, a small disc that has half of an image on the front, and half on the back; when spun, the image appears as one. Build a thaumatrope here.

**What You Need:**
- Thaumatrope print out
- Glue
- String
- Markers

**What to do:**
- Either color in or decorate the front and back of the your thaumatrope.
- Tape the two white discs together, making sure that one side is taped upside down.
- Punch a hole on the left and right of the image, next tie a piece of yarn to each side.
- Wind up your thaumatrope by spinning the disk. Now pull on the string away from the paper disk. As the disk spins watch your images come together!

**Bonus Challenge:** Now you understand the basic concept try to design your own thaumatrope.