

# whisk

Whisks are a kitchen tool that children may or may not already be familiar with. Either way, a whisk is sure to stir up some interesting conversation.

## Talk Time

Use a wire whisk for the discussion today, if possible. This is the type that children are most likely to be familiar with.

### Vocabulary

stir, mix, whip, handle, wire, fluff, motion, wrist

## DESCRIBING

Describe the way this object looks and the way it is used.

- ◆ What is this whisk made of?
- ◆ What color is it?
- ◆ What do people do with whisks? (stir, mix, or whip things)
- ◆ Does this whisk have a handle? Which part is the handle?
- ◆ What is this other part for? Why is there so much space between these thin wires on the bottom?
- ◆ What room in the house is the whisk used in?
- ◆ Could you hang this whisk on a hook? How?
- ◆ What part of your body do you use to make the whisking motion?  
(wrist)

## COMPARING

Compare this object to others in the way it looks and the way it is used.

- ◆ Does anyone at your home ever use a whisk? What do they use it for?

- ◆ Have you ever seen a whisk made out of something other than metal?
- ◆ What else could you use to mix something if you didn't have a whisk? (fork, blender)

## **EXTENDING**

Go beyond physical description and typical uses.

- ◆ Could a whisk be made out of wood and have a solid bottom? How do you think that would work?
- ◆ A whisk helps fluff things up by whipping air into the mixture. Is it better to use a slow or a fast motion when using a whisk?
- ◆ Examine the whisk closely. Do you think the whisk was made from one piece of wire, or more? Why do you think so?
- ◆ Where might you be able to buy a wire whisk?
- ◆ What creative uses can you think of for a wire whisk?

# mirror

Mirrors come in all sorts of sizes and shapes. They play an important role in many occupations as well as in some famous stories.

## Talk Time

Use a handheld mirror with a frame and a handle for this Talk Time session. You might also show other kinds of mirrors for comparison. If you can, include one that has magnification properties.

### Vocabulary

frame, handle, reflection, shapes (circle, oval, rectangle), colors, sizes (bigger, smaller), materials (wood, plastic, glass), occupations (dentist, hairstylist)

## DESCRIBING

Describe the way this object looks and the way it is used.

- ◆ What shape is this mirror?
- ◆ What color is the frame?
- ◆ What is the frame made of?
- ◆ What is the mirror itself made of? (glass)
- ◆ Does the mirror have a handle?
- ◆ What do you use a mirror for? What is a reflection?
- ◆ What is reflected in a mirror?
- ◆ Are mirrors breakable?

## COMPARING

Compare this object to others in the way it looks and the way it is used.

- ◆ Tell about a mirror you have in your house. How is it different from this one?

- ◆ What different shapes do mirrors have? (rectangle, oval, circle)
- ◆ What different sizes are they? (as big as a \_\_\_\_\_, small enough to fit in a \_\_\_\_\_)
- ◆ Do all mirrors have frames? What kinds of frames are there?
- ◆ Where do you find mirrors? (car, bathroom, purse, dressing rooms, sliding doors, etc.)
- ◆ Some mirrors are two-sided. How is the image different on the back side? (magnified, enlarged)

## EXTENDING

Go beyond physical description and typical uses.

- ◆ If the mirror is made of glass, why can't we see right through it?
- ◆ What other things reflect like a mirror? A lake I know is called Mirror Lake. Why do you think it is called that?
- ◆ What kinds of people use mirrors as part of their job? (dentists, truck drivers, hair stylists, spys...)
- ◆ The wicked queen in Snow White said,  
 "Mirror, mirror on the wall  
 Who is the fairest of them all?"  
 Why did she say that? What did she find out?
- ◆ Have you ever used a mirror to see the back of your head? How can you do it?
- ◆ Is a mirror image different from the real thing? How?
- ◆ Have you ever seen a mirror in which the image is distorted? What did you see? Why is the image distorted?