



Catapults



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Knock Knock Children's Museum is a community spark for engaging, playful learning experiences that inspire and support lifelong learning.

Catapults

Age Level: 4 - 12 | Learning Zone: STEAM Activity #8
Subject: Catapults | Lesson Duration: 15-30 minutes

[WATCH THE VIDEO LESSON HERE!](#)

Materials Needed:

- Seven (7) craft sticks
- Five (5) rubber bands
- One (1) pom-pom ball
- Markers

Louisiana Standards:

SI-E-A2, SI-E-A4, 2-PS1-1, 2-PS1-2, 3-PS2-13-PS2-2

History:

A **catapult** is a device used to launch a projectile a great distance.

During the Middle Ages (hundreds of years ago in Europe), **catapults** were used to launch objects (projectiles) over castle walls. A projectile is any object thrown by the exertion of force. The catapult will force your projectile into the air and gravity will bring it down. You will use a pom-pom as your projectile.

A **catapult** is a simple machine made from a fulcrum and lever. A fulcrum supports a lever and allows it to pivot. A lever is simply a plank or ridged beam that is free to rotate. Your fulcrum will hold your lever and when you push down the lever it will send your projectile flying high.



What You Will Make!



Catapult from the Middle Ages!

Directions:

- Take all your materials out of the bag.
- Stack 5 craft sticks and fasten a rubber band on each end.
- Then make a separate stack using 2 craft sticks and fasten a rubber band on only 1 end.
- Open the stack of 2 and insert the stack of 5 craft sticks.
- Put the rubber band on the open end of your catapult and twist the rubber band on the open side and then fasten it around the other side.
- Decorate your catapult with your markers.
- Place the pom-pom ball on the open end and press down behind it to catapult it in the air!
- How far can you make your projectile go?



Step One



Step Two



Step Three



Step Four



Step Five