

Catapults







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Catapults

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

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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.

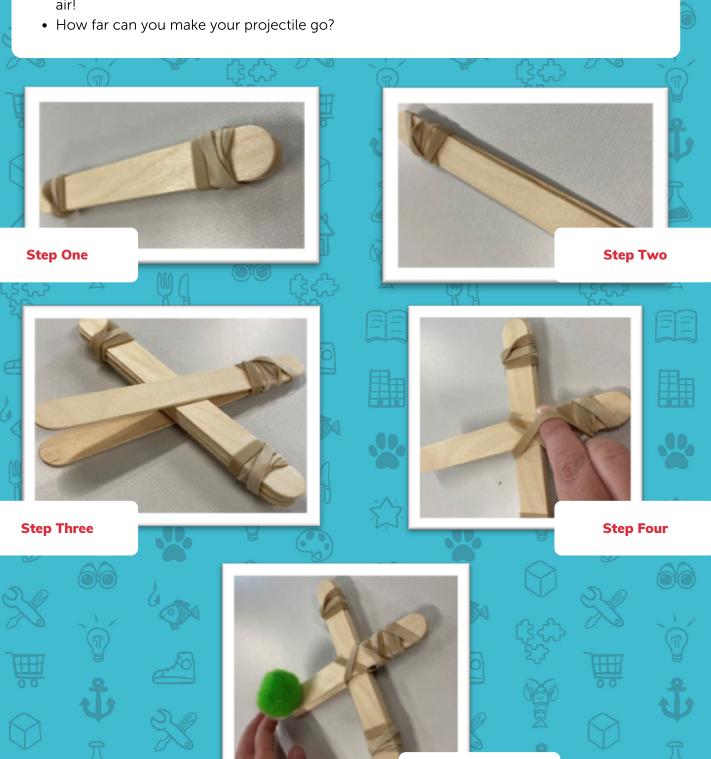
A catapult is a simple machine made from a fulcrum and lever. A fulcrum supports a lever and allows it to pivot. A lever is simply a plank or ridged beam that is free to rotate. Your fulcrum will hold your lever and when you push down the lever it will send your projectile flying high.





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!



Step Five