



# Popsicle Stick Catapult

## The Sky is the Limit

### INTRO

In this activity, we will be creating catapults! This activity will allow students to learn how to get the most successful results through trial and error. Encourage your students to predict how far they will launch the pom pom.

### SUPPLIES

- Popsicle Sticks
- Rubber Bands
- Plastic Spoons
- Pom Poms

### VOCAB

- Prediction
- Gravity
- Force

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Make a stack of 5 or 6 popsicle sticks and rubber band them together on each end.
2. Take two additional popsicle sticks and stack them together. Rubber-band them together on just one end.
3. Pull the two popsicle sticks slightly apart and place the larger stack of popsicle sticks in between them.
4. Rubber band the stack of popsicle sticks to just the upper popsicle stick.
5. Rubber band a spoon to the upper popsicle stick. Place a few pom poms onto the spoon.
6. Hold the catapult with one hand, and use the other hand to pull the spoon down. Release the spoon to launch your pom pom!

### DISCUSS

- Experiment with different catapult designs. What happens when you put more popsicle sticks together in the larger stack? What happens with you put less?
- What's the furthest that the pom pom traveled? How did you get it to travel far?
- What else can you make a catapult out of?
- What else can you launch off your catapult?

