

PAPER ROCKETS

OBJECTIVE

Build a paper rocket to use with a stomp launcher.

MATERIALS

- construction paper (body/fuselage; x1 per student)
- template for nose cone & fins (1 page per student)
- scissors (to share)
- tape (to share)
- wooden dowel (to share)
- launcher (to share)

INSTRUCTIONS

fins fuselage

nose cone

NOTE: This activity can be done individually or in pairs (recommended with time restrictions).

Step 1: Build body or "fuselage"





#1: Put the dowel on one edge of the construction paper, and start rolling. Make sure that the body can snug on the dowel – not too tight, not too loose.





#2: While still on the dowel, use enough tape to <u>completely</u> seal the seam of the body. TIP: Ask another student to hold down the rolled paper while you put a small tape in the middle to prevent it from unrolling. Then on your own, seal the seam completely with tape.

#3: Before sliding it out of the dowel, write the student's name(s). Slide the body from the dowel.







Step 2: Nose



#1: Using the template, cut the $\frac{3}{4}$ circle to make the nose.

#2: Roll the circle into a cone shape until the shape is almost the same size as the body width.



#3: Tape the nose cone on the body/fuselage, completely sealing the seam.









Step 4: Fins





#1: Cut the fins from the template.

#2: Fold the fin in half (middle dotted line).



Ste#p 3: Fold the edges upward (outer dotted line). These will be your mounting edges.







#5: Put tape on the mounting edges.



#6: Place the fin on the tail end of the body and press firmly.



#7: Congrats! You now have a paper rocket!







Safety rules

- 1. Designate an area as the launch pad and landing area.
- 2. Students must stand behind the launcher when not launching.
- 3. When inserting rockets into the launcher, the student must be behind the launcher and make sure the pole is pointing away.
- 4. Before launching rockets, the landing area must be clear.
- 5. Only the students who are retrieving rockets may be in the landing area (unless another person is required to measure distance).









