

Marshmallow Launcher!

Create your own marshmallow launcher and let the open-ended exploration begin!



Materials:

Disposable cups
Balloons
Marshmallows
Scissors
Scotch tape
Duct tape

Procedure:

1. Cut off the bottom 2.5 cm of a sturdy plastic disposable cup.
2. Tie a knot in the open end of a deflated balloon. Then cut off the rounded end and stretch the balloon over the cut end of the cup.
3. Tape the balloon to the cup with scotch tape to keep it in position while you tape it more securely with duct tape. Asking a friend to assist with this step is very helpful!
4. Tear off short strips of duct tape and secure the balloon to the cup with these duct tape strips, making sure the strips overlap each other.
5. Now you are ready to have some fun with your launcher!

Exploration and Fun:

1. See how far you can launch your marshmallow. Can someone catch it with their launcher?
2. Try launching different items: cotton balls, pompoms, aluminum foil ball. You can switch up the materials and/or the size of the object.
3. For a math extension, try launching different materials and graphing how far they travel.
4. What happens when you use a different kind of cup? You can try different materials (paper, Styrofoam) or different sizes and explore the variables.