



BREWING UP SOME STEAM STRAW ROCKETS

Create and launch mini rockets from drinking straws!

Materials You Will Need:

- 12 adhesive labels (1 x 2 1/2 in.)
- a drinking straw
- 3 larger milkshake straws
- scissors
- flight recording sheet
- masking tape
- tape measure or some other way to compare flight distances

DIRECTIONS

**See the instructional video on the
York Public Library YouTube Channel**



1. Cut two of your labels in half the short way to make four 1 x 1 1/4 in. labels.



2. Wrap one whole uncut label around the end of one of the larger milkshake straws and seal completely to make a rocket nose cone.



3. At the opposite end of the same straw, use three of the half size labels you cut to make "fins". Write the name of your first rocket on one of the fins.

Straw rockets (cont.)



4) Locate a space that is at least 20 feet long. Use masking tape to mark off a launch line.

5) Insert a drinking straw inside the larger milkshake straw rocket. Aim the rocket into the air, away from anyone else, and launch by blowing hard.

6) Use your other labels and larger milkshake straws to make 2 more straw rockets. Experiment: Change the size, shape, and even the number of fins on your other rockets.

Take this further:

What happened when you made changes to the fins of your rocket?

Try this:

make a rocket with bends or twists in the fins
cut into the fins on some of the rockets you made

What is happening?

The fins on a rocket impact its stability. They help keep the rocket going in the direction it launched and help the rocket correct itself if changes in the air cause it to wobble.