

Projectiles: 4. Toilet roll projectile

(Ireland)

Background:

A stretched elastic band can launch a toilet roll projectile.

You will need:

- ✓ toilet rolls and card
- ✓ sticky tape and glue
- ✓ chopsticks or skewers
- ✓ elastic bands

Follow these steps:

1. Cut a piece off a toilet roll to make a rocket shape.
2. Use another toilet roll or card to make fins and a nose for the projectile.

3. Knot an elastic band around the middle of a chopstick. Keep this chopstick horizontal.
4. Use sticky tape to stick the other end of the elastic band to the tip of the other chopstick.
5. Push the end of the chopstick with sticky tape vertically into the toilet roll projectile.
6. Pull the horizontal chopstick downwards away from the projectile, then let go.

So what happened?

The horizontal chopstick will be pulled upwards and the projectile will be launched.

What next?

Try repeating this exercise several times with different sized elastic bands. Will different sized elastics affect the height/distance travelled?

