

**Catapult for Distance**

**Activity #3**

**K-2**

# **Estimated Time:**

30 minutes

# **Materials:**

* Popsicle Sticks
* Plastic Spoon
* Rubber Bands
* Pompoms

# **Instructions:**

1. Take 5 sticks and stack them, securing one end with a rubber band. You’ll need to wrap the rubber band around several times to make it nice and secure.
2. Slide one stick between the bottom stick and the rest of the stack.
3. Secure the other end with a rubber band.
4. Place the spoon on top and attach the end of the spoon to the end of the single stick with the last rubber band.
5. Launch pompoms!

# **Possible Variations:**

* Use marshmallows instead of Pompoms
* Compete to see who can get their Pompoms to fly the farthest/highest

# **The Science:**

When you pull down the lever arm all the potential energy gets stored. Release it and that potential energy transfers to kinetic energy sending the Pompom flying! Gravity and drag do their part to slow the Pompom down and pull it back down to the grounds.

**\*\*WARNING: Adult Supervision Required. Small parts may cause a choking hazard\*\***