



INVENT THE SUMMER

Week 4: Catapult



Your Objective:

Build a catapult that will launch an object through the air.

You CAN:

- ☀️ Decide if your catapult will shoot for accuracy or distance - most will not do both well.
- ☀️ Use any kind of materials you want. Examples include: pencils, popsicle sticks, plastic spoons, bottle caps, rubber bands, cans and bottles.
- ☀️ Pick your own ammunition. Examples include: cotton balls, marshmallows, and ping-pong balls.

Once you figure out how to get your catapult to launch for either distance or accuracy, see if you can make some modifications to the ammunition to improve performance.

How to avoid angry parents:

DO:

- ☀️ Ask them to approve your choice of ammunition.
- ☀️ Select an appropriate target.
- ☀️ Work in a wide open space where you won't break things if your accuracy is poor. Outside is a good option.
- ☀️ Clean up after yourself.

DON'T:

- ☀️ Use breakable objects as a target.
- ☀️ Fling things at unsuspecting people.
- ☀️ Use rocks or other hard objects as ammunition.
- ☀️ Eat all the popsicles in the house in order to harvest the sticks.



Take a video of your catapult.

Create a video of your solution. Try to keep your video under 1-minute long and include the following:

- The name of your solution.
- How does it work?
- What kind of materials did you use?
- Did you have any problems figuring out the solution?
- What was the biggest lesson you learned?

Remember, your video will be visible to anyone with an internet connection, so it's important to protect your privacy and stay safe. [Click here](#) to see our video submission and safety tips.



Ask a parent to enter your video into our contest by 11:59pm EST on July 7, 2019.

To enter our contest, you must upload your video to [YouTube](#) or [Vimeo](#). Then use our [online entry form](#) to send us the link. All entries must be completed by a parent or legal guardian.

**All submitted videos will be reviewed prior to publishing online to ensure that the rules of the contest were followed and that the content is appropriate for all ages.*

Voting

Voting will open at 12:01am EST on July 8 and close at 11:59pm EST on July 9. See our [voting rules](#) for more information.

3 Winners to be announced July 10, 2019!

1 Popular Choice Winner: Receives an *Invent the Summer* t-shirt.

1 Editor's Pick: Selected by the *Invent the Summer* team. Challenge solutions will be judged on originality, execution and presentation. The winner will receive an *Invent the Summer* t-shirt.

1 Random Choice Winner: One person from our mailing list will be selected at random to receive an *Invent the Summer* drawstring bag.