Helping your children choose books they will love

I reading

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extracts from

23 Things to Do Before You are 11 ½

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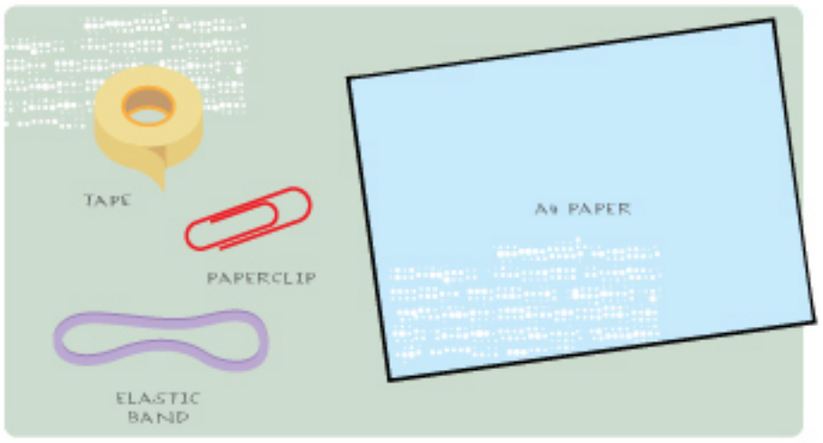
Please print off and read at your leisure.

Lovereading4kids.co.uk

Ultimate paper airplane launcher



You can take paper plane flights higher and faster with an elastic launch system. All you need are basic office supplies.



you will need

- A4 sheet of paper
- paperclip
- elastic band
- sticky tape

CAUTION: Launch your plane outdoors, and aim it away from people, pets and breakable objects!

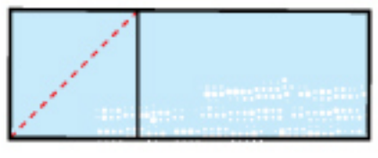
First make the airplane

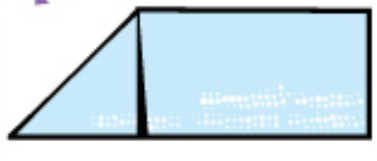


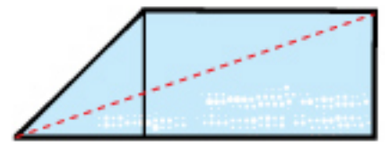
1. Fold the paper in half lengthways. This is called a valley fold (as it forms a valley shape).



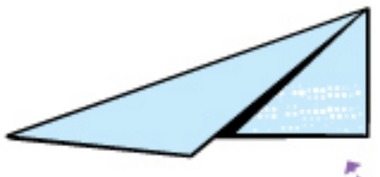
2. Grab a corner and fold it back diagonally until the side edge is lined up with the valley fold to make a triangle. Flip the paper over and repeat on the other side.



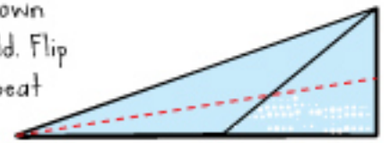




3. In the same way as before, fold down the folded section towards the valley fold again. Flip the sheet over and repeat on other side.



4. Once again, fold down towards the valley fold. Flip the sheet over and repeat on other side.

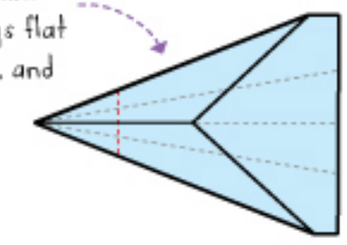


* Smooth the folds down with your fingertips to make them really sharp.

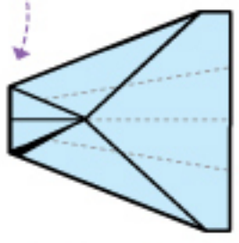


5. Ease the last folds you made upwards to make the plane's wings.

time for the test flight...



6. Next lay the plane down with the wings flat on the worksurface, and carefully unfold the wings.



7. Fold the tip back into the valley fold.

SOMETHING ABOUT LIFT AND AERO DYNAMICS

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Secret booksafe

Make your own secret hiding place from an old hardcover book. By carving out the inside of a book, you can make a place to stash small personal items. Put the book on your bookshelf and hide your goodies where no one will find them...in full view!

you will need

- hardcover book*
- plastic bag or clingfilm
- hard plastic sheet/ lid about the size of the book (to act as a cutting board)
- sharp craft knife
- masking tape
- bench vice / locking clamps
- metal ruler
- white glue
- 2.5cm paint brush

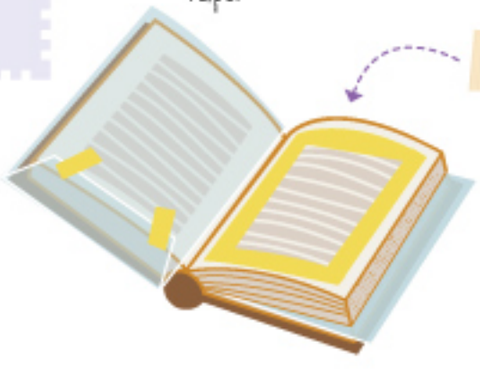
* NEVER destroy a good book! Buy an old one from a secondhand shop or ask an adult if they have one to spare. You could decorate the cover if you want to change the look of the book.



To make this book look untouched at a passing glance, you're only going to carve out the middle pages.



1. Gather about 10 pages in from the front of the book and wrap them, and the cover, in a small plastic bag (or clingfilm). Stick tight with masking tape.

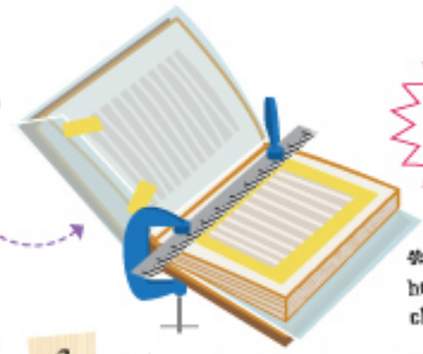


2. Count 10 pages from the back and slide the plastic sheet in front of them. Use four strips of masking tape to make a squared off section around the new 'first' page at the front of the book.

Note to parents

This project uses a sharp knife. It is easily manageable for a child, but should definitely have adult supervision.

3. Now place a metal rule over the masking tape closest to the book spine, and use two clamps to secure the book and ruler to the edge of the work surface, making sure that the book cannot slip.



Need a hand?

* You may need help to secure the clamps.



Need a hand?

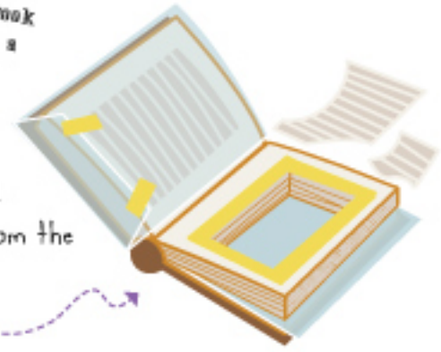
Hold the knife firmly and keep your fingers well out of the way!

4. Working slowly and carefully, use a craft knife to cut into the pages of the book along the metal rule along the inside edges of the masking tape.

* Cutting through a book is hard work, so take a break if you're getting tired!

5. Cut through the paper until you reach the plastic sheet then stop. Rotate the book in the vise as you go, clamping it tightly each time. Cut into the corners carefully to keep them tidy.

6. After you have cut all the pages, unclamp the vice and remove any debris from the cutting area.

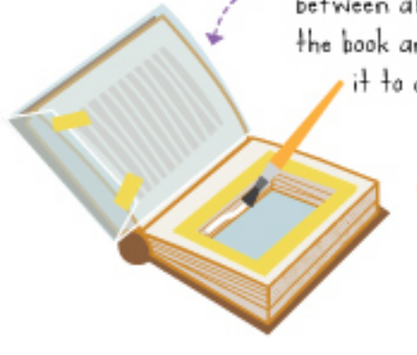




7. Pour some white glue into a pot then open up the back of the book. Remove the plastic lid, and use the brush to apply glue to edge of the last cut page. Close the book.



8. Next, open the front of the book and carefully brush glue between all of the cut pages. Close the book and clamp tightly, leaving it to dry overnight.





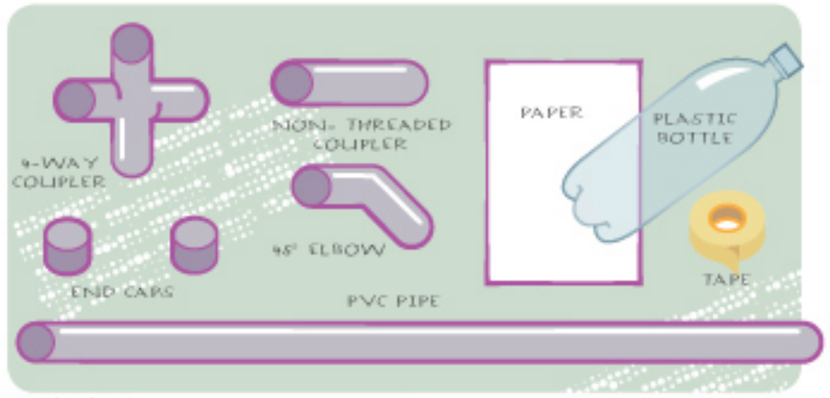
9. Once the glue has dried, peel open the book and remove the masking tape and front cover plastic. Now you are ready to store your favourite goodies!

Stomp rocket launcher

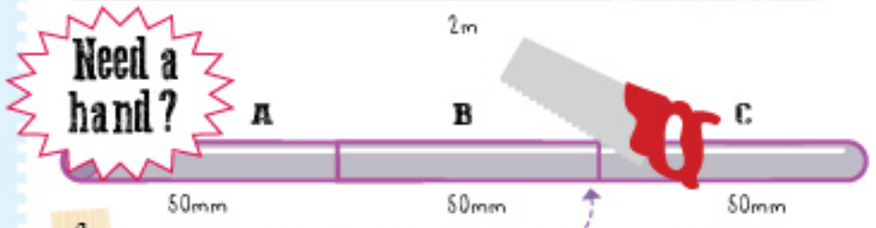
Grab your space helmet, it's time to launch some rockets. You can make paper rockets that shoot up to 30 metres. Because of their speed, this is a project to be done outside!

you will need

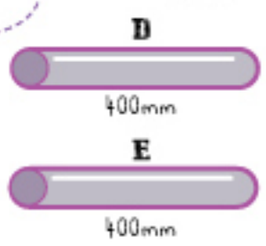
- 2m x 25mm dia. PVC pipe
- 25mm non-threaded coupler
- 25mm 4-way connector
- 25mm 45° PVC elbow
- end caps (x 2)
- 2litre pop bottle and cap
- drill and 12mm bit
- PVC glue
- A4 paper
- transparent tape
- scissors



Need a hand?



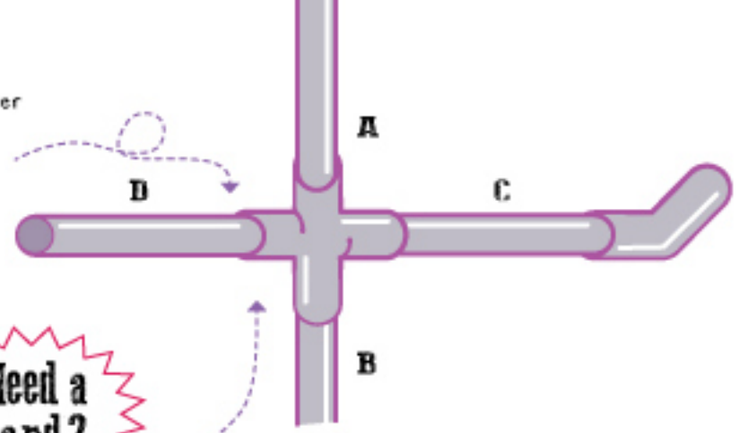
1. Measure along the 2m pipe and make a mark for 5 lengths: 50mm (x 3) and 400mm (x2). Hold the pipe firmly and saw it into the 5 sections, keeping the saw as straight as possible.





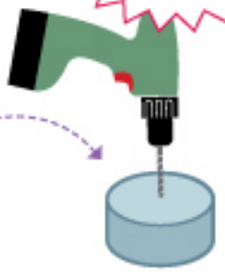
2. Take the 4-way connector and push pipes A and B into two of the opposite couplers and add 2 end caps. This completes the stabiliser for your launcher.

3. Next add pipe D to the stabiliser and pipe C to the opposite side. Attach the elbow pipe to pipe C, so that it points up at an angle towards you.



4. Drill a hole in the centre of the bottle cap. Glue the top of the cap into the end of pipe D, making sure you don't glue over the hole.

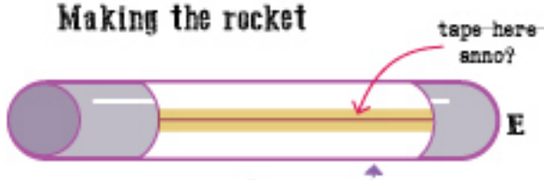
Need a hand?



now take it apart again...

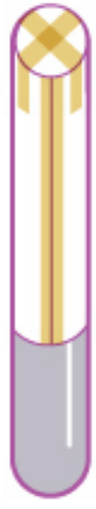
5. Check all fittings and if you are happy that everything is a nice snug fit, remove each component one at a time, add PVC glue to the coupler grooves and screw back together.

Making the rocket



6. Wrap a sheet of paper around pipe E, just tight enough, so that it can move along the pipe, and stick along the paper's edge with tape. Don't tape the pipe!

7. Next, cut a disk of paper to cover the end of the pipe. Then slide the tube of paper to the top of the pipe, cover with the paper disk, and criss-cross over the end with pieces of tape, to seal the end.



8. Now make the rocket fins. Cut a sheet of paper into a square, then fold into a triangle and tape along one of the edges. Make a 10mm fold along the other edge and snip off the point. Repeat to make 2 more fins.

