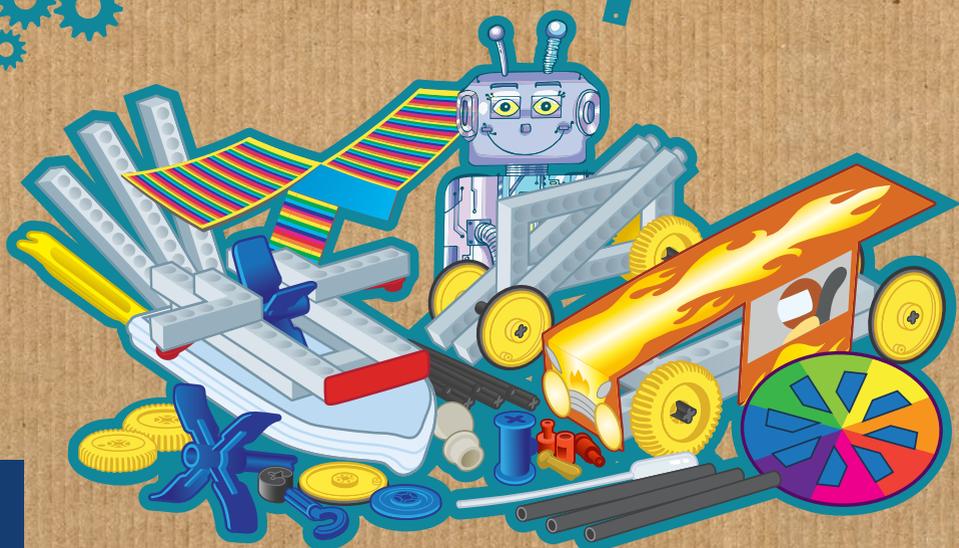


INTRO TO ENGINEERING

SCIENCE KIT



THAMES & KOSMOS



>>> SAFETY INFORMATION

WARNINGS. Not suitable for children under 3 years. Choking hazard — small parts may be swallowed or inhaled. Strangulation hazard — long cords may become wrapped around the neck. This kit contains functional sharp points, corners, or edges. Do not injure yourself!

Store the experimental kit out of reach of young children.

Keep the packaging and instructions as they contain important information.

WARNING! The model boats are only to be used in water in which the child is within its depth and under adult supervision.

Rules for safe experimentation

- >>> Keep children and animals away from the experimental area.
- >>> Do not eat or drink in the experimental area.
- >>> After the experiments, the used pieces of equipment should be rinsed, dried with paper towel, and put back in their spots in the experiment kit. The worktable should be wiped off and hands should be washed.
- >>> Be careful not to hit people with the parachute or the helicopter.
- >>> Do not throw the glider toward anyone. Do not aim at eyes or face.



>>> IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Dear Parents,

Children are curious by nature. They want to explore and understand the world. With this experiment kit, even five-year-olds can carry out their first exciting experiments. Experimenting, wondering, and playing are all tied together, so they won't miss out on fun while they learn. In the process, they will develop an understanding of the fundamentals of engineering, and they will discover how fun it can be to do experimental research.

The experiments are easy, but they won't work without a little effort. Give support to your little explorers, since children's curiosity and ability to understand things are often more fully developed than their manual capabilities. And if an experiment doesn't work right the first time, encourage your child to try the experiment one more time.

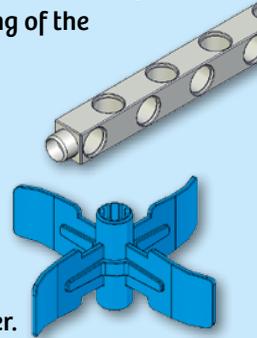


If an experiment is marked with this symbol it means that your help will be required to make sure it is safe and successful.

Help your child find a well-lit location that can take a little wear and tear, where you can both do the experiments without being disturbed. As with real researchers, it is advisable to wear old

clothes that you won't mind getting dirty. We also recommend that you have all the experimental materials ready beforehand, so it won't be necessary to stop in the middle of an experiment to get something. Because this kit was designed for young researchers, the descriptions and explanations have been kept as short and simple as possible. They should be organized and read together beforehand, so that the children can do the experiments independently with a solid understanding of the background knowledge.

The correct alignment of the components is important! Paying close attention to this from the beginning will make building the models easier.



We wish you happy experimenting!



 — = Cutting line

 = Gluing surface

..... = Line remains visible on outside when folded

--- = Line disappears on the inside when folded

>>> KIT CONTENTS

GOOD TO KNOW!

>>> If you are missing any parts, please contact Thames & Kosmos customer service.



Checklist: Find – Inspect – Check off

✓ No.	Description	Qty.	Item No.	✓ No.	Description	Qty.	Item No.		
<input type="radio"/>	1	Flip-book paper sheet	1	715 766	<input type="radio"/>	20	Long rod	2	703 235
<input type="radio"/>	2	Printed paper sheet	1	716 557	<input type="radio"/>	21	5-hole rod	2	704 063
<input type="radio"/>	3	Glider paper sheet	1	715 765	<input type="radio"/>	22	3-hole rod	2	705 015
<input type="radio"/>	4	Die-cut cardboard sheet	1	714 451	<input type="radio"/>	23	Medium gear	2	702 505
<input type="radio"/>	5	String	1	706 761	<input type="radio"/>	24	Medium pulley	2	707 010
<input type="radio"/>	6	Clear film sheet	1	000 587	<input type="radio"/>	25	Small pulley	2	707 011
<input type="radio"/>	7	Drinking straw blue	1	707 448	<input type="radio"/>	26	O-ring for medium pulley	2	703 251
<input type="radio"/>	8	Drinking straw black	2	701 375	<input type="radio"/>	27	Long axle	2	703 234
<input type="radio"/>	9	Pipette	1	708 761	<input type="radio"/>	28	Medium axle	1	703 238
<input type="radio"/>	10	Parachute material	1	706 535	<input type="radio"/>	29	Short axle	1	703 236
<input type="radio"/>	11	Push pin	1	706 642	<input type="radio"/>	30	Crane hook	1	706 533
<input type="radio"/>	12	Mounting stand	2	701 384	<input type="radio"/>	31	String spool	1	706 854
<input type="radio"/>	13	Paper clip	3	263 132	<input type="radio"/>	32	Connection bridge	1	703 231
<input type="radio"/>	14	Small rubber band	2	161 412	<input type="radio"/>	33	Anchor pin	14	702 527
<input type="radio"/>	15	Large rubber band	4	708 271	<input type="radio"/>	34	Shaft plug	1	702 525
<input type="radio"/>	16	Paddle wheel	1	706 540	<input type="radio"/>	35	Joint pin	1	702 524
<input type="radio"/>	17	Axle	1	706 803	<input type="radio"/>	36	Button pin	4	704 062
<input type="radio"/>	18	Anchor pin lever	1	702 590	<input type="radio"/>	37	Axle lock	2	702 813
<input type="radio"/>	19	Small frame	1	710 113					

Any materials not included in the kit are marked with this symbol + under the "You will need" heading.

You will also need:

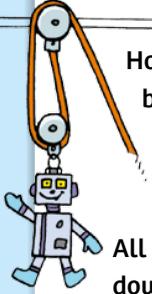
Paper, pen, tape, glue, scissors, knife, coin, glass, plastic cups, mixing bowl, two small empty, yogurt cups, 2 cooking spoons, thin rope, paper towels, water, sink, bathtub, long wooden board for ramp, books, toys like building blocks, marbles, toy figure

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Kit Contents 2
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Technical Tricks 4

How to make small forces into big forces: Levers, pulleys, and wooden spoon tricks

**Engineering on Land** 10

All about autos: Wheels, downhill racing, and rubber band motors

**Engineering in the Air** 20

Things that fly: Parachutes, helicopters, gliders — and what flies to the moon?

**Engineering in the Water** 30

Underwater and above water: Diving bells, sailboats, and paddle boats

**Engineering at Home** 38

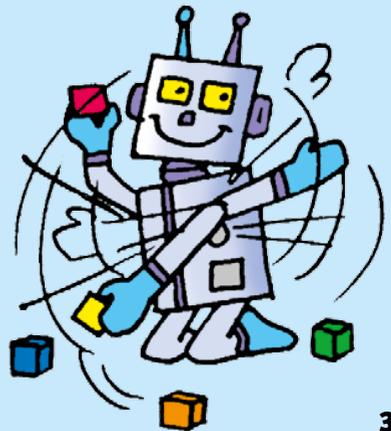
Telephone, magnifying glass, TV, and a robot: Simple models you can build yourself

**Dear Kids!**

Are you interested in machines and technology? Do you want to know how vehicles work — on land, in the water, and in the air? And have you always wanted to build a robot? Then let's get serious about engineering!

Your parents will be happy to help you gather the extra things you might need for each experiment, perform each step of the experiment, and read the explanations afterward. Make sure you follow the instructions closely. The tips will help you with the trickier building steps. Don't be frustrated if something doesn't work as expected the first time: That is an important part of science!

Let's start our experiments by examining levers! Have fun!





What Is Engineering?

Engineering is the use of scientific knowledge for designing and building things. A person who studies or practices engineering is called an engineer. Engineers plan and build everything from machines to specific materials, from giant structures to microscopic devices, from manufacturing systems to software programs on computers.

There are six main branches of engineering. Mechanical engineers work on physical systems and machines, like engines and buildings. Civil engineers work on large infrastructure projects, like highways and bridges. Chemical engineers work with all sorts of materials and substances. Aerospace engineers design airplanes and spacecraft. Electrical engineers work on devices that use electricity, like computers. Software engineers write computer programs.

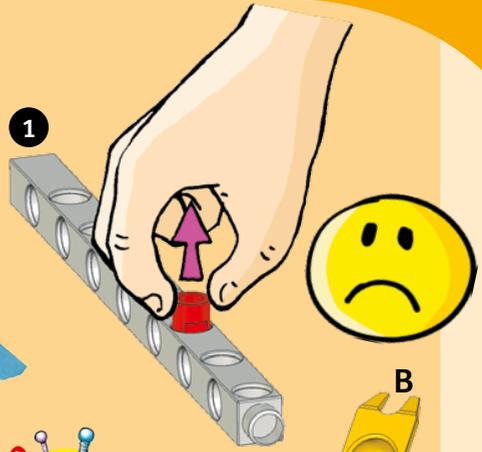
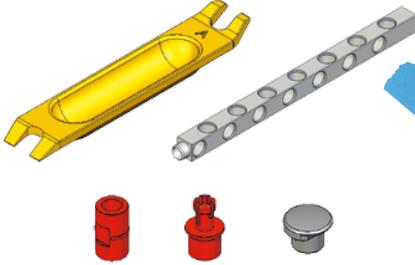
In this kit, we have divided the projects into sections based on location: projects on land, in the air, in the water, and at home. There is also one experiment on engineering in the future, just for fun. But first, let's start with some technical tricks that make tasks easier!



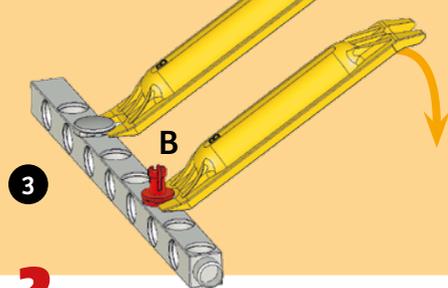
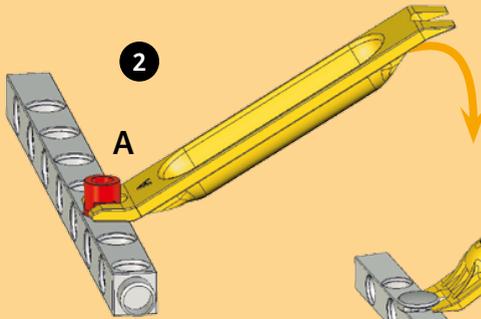
EXPERIMENT 1

Lever

YOU WILL NEED

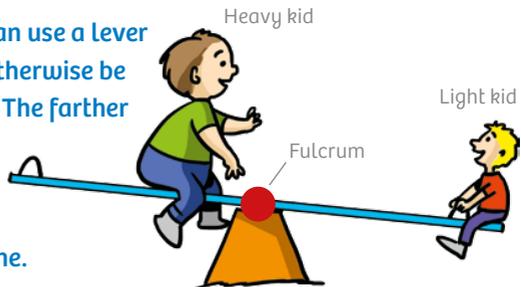


Side A = Narrow
Side B = Wide



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

It's easier with a lever! You can use a lever to move a load that would otherwise be too heavy for your strength. The farther away from the fulcrum you push, the easier it is. So a long lever can lift a heavier load than a short one.

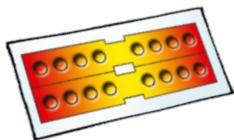




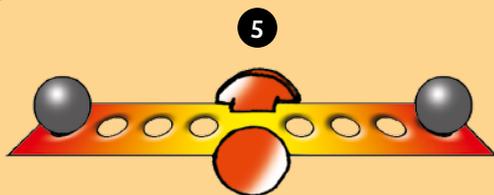
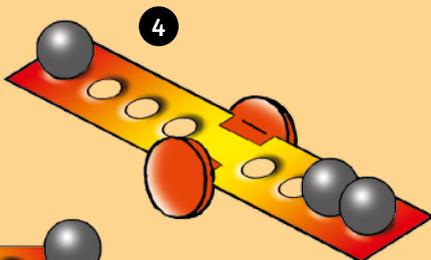
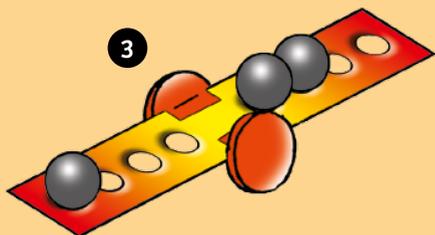
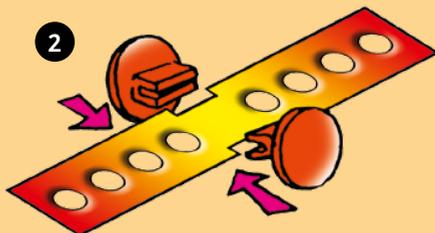
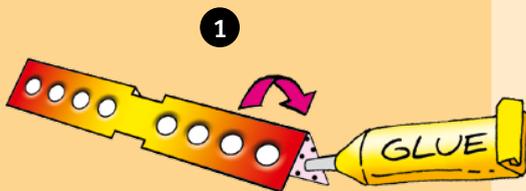
EXPERIMENT 2

Seesaw

YOU WILL NEED



- + 8 Marbles
- + Glue



WHAT'S HAPPENING ?

A seesaw will tip downward on the side with the greater weight. Both the weight of the objects on the seesaw and their distance from the center fulcrum point are important. The farther a weight is from the fulcrum, the greater its effect, or force.

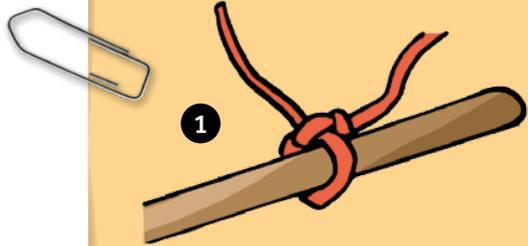


EXPERIMENT 3

Muscle kids

YOU WILL NEED

- + 2 big wooden or plastic spoons
- + 2-3 meters of thin rope or cord
- + A parent or adult helper



Set up the experiment as shown. Hold the rope taut and ask your father, mother, or other helper to pull the spoons apart. Then pull on the string. Who is stronger: You or your assistant?



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

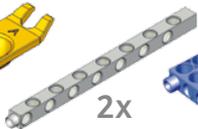
Magic powers? No, it's an engineering **trick!** An important principle in engineering is that you can reduce the amount of force by applying it over a longer distance. When you wrap the rope around the spoons, you increase the length of rope, but decrease the force needed to pull the spoons together.



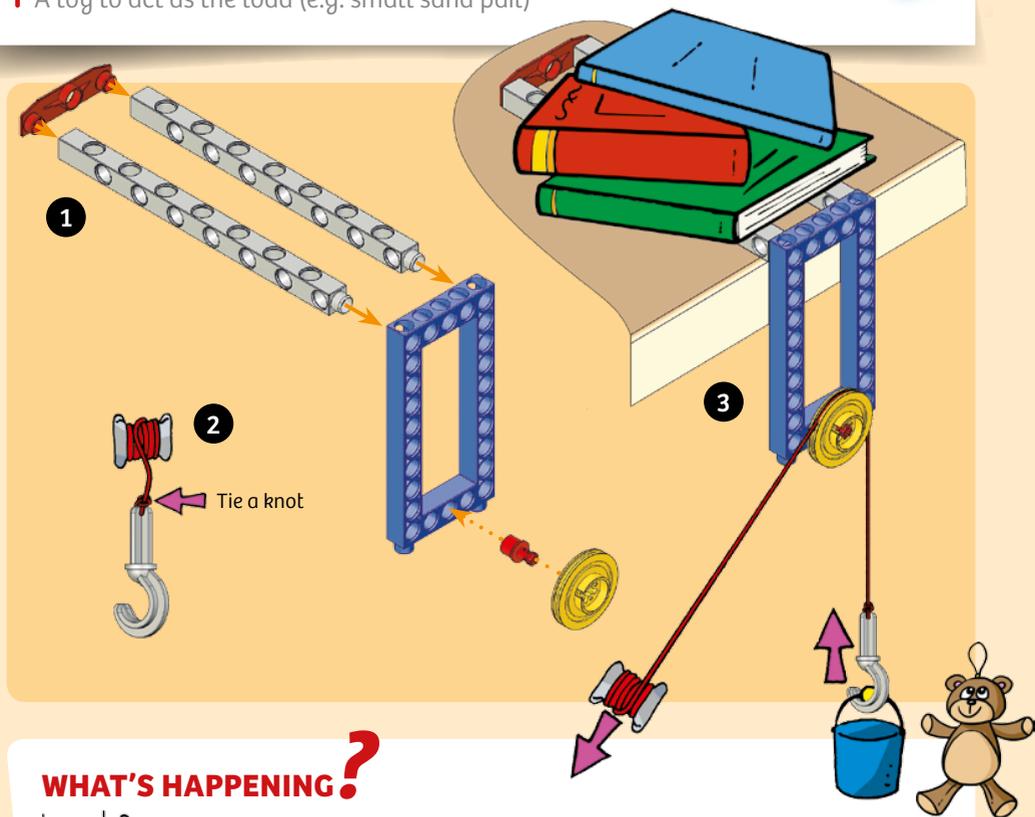
EXPERIMENT 4

Pulley hoist

YOU WILL NEED



- + Thick books for weights
- + A toy to act as the load (e.g. small sand pail)



WHAT'S HAPPENING?



By pulling down on the string, you lift the bucket up. The **pulley** changes the direction of the force. Normally, you have to pull upward to lift something up. This pulley doesn't reduce the force needed, but it is still a helpful tool. For example, a painter can use it to lift a bucket up to the top of his scaffolding.

CHECK IT OUT



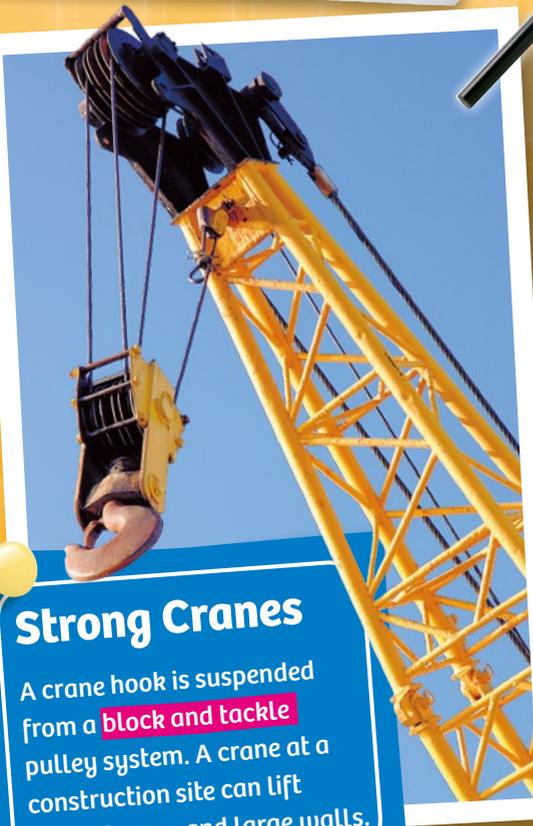
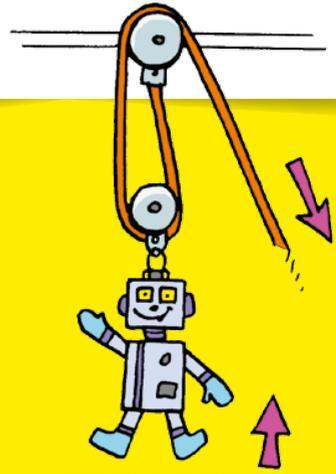
Excavator

A lever is a **simple machine** — because it alters a force so that useful work can be done with it. Levers often form parts of larger and more complicated machines. The arm of an earth-digging excavator, for example, is a lever.



Using more than one pulley

You can save effort by working with **several pulleys**. The rope runs back and forth between the pulleys, like in your experiment with the two spoons! With a pulley system, you need a longer rope and you have to pull farther, but on the other hand you don't need as much force. A pulley system with multiple pulley wheels is called a block and tackle.



Strong Cranes

A crane hook is suspended from a **block and tackle** pulley system. A crane at a construction site can lift heavy beams and large walls.



Engineering on Land



EXPERIMENT 5



Speedy race car

YOU WILL NEED



4x



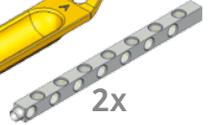
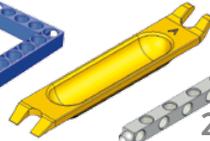
2x



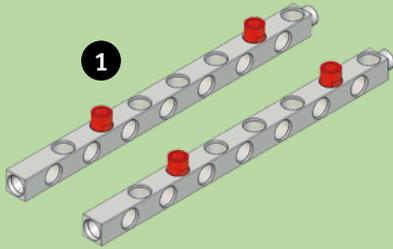
2x



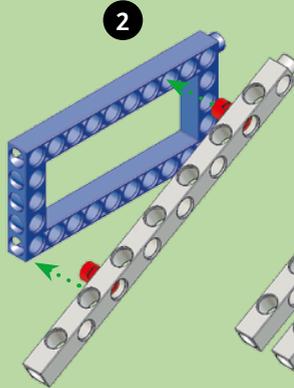
2x



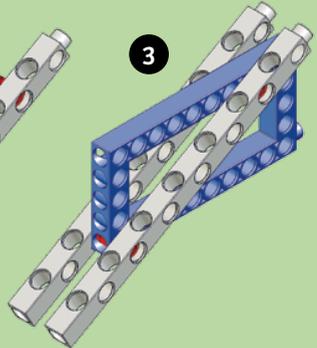
2x



1



2



3



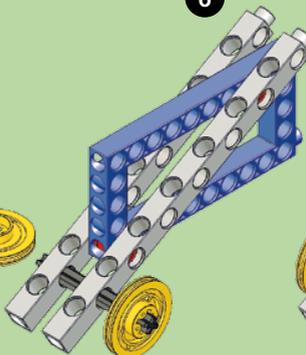
4



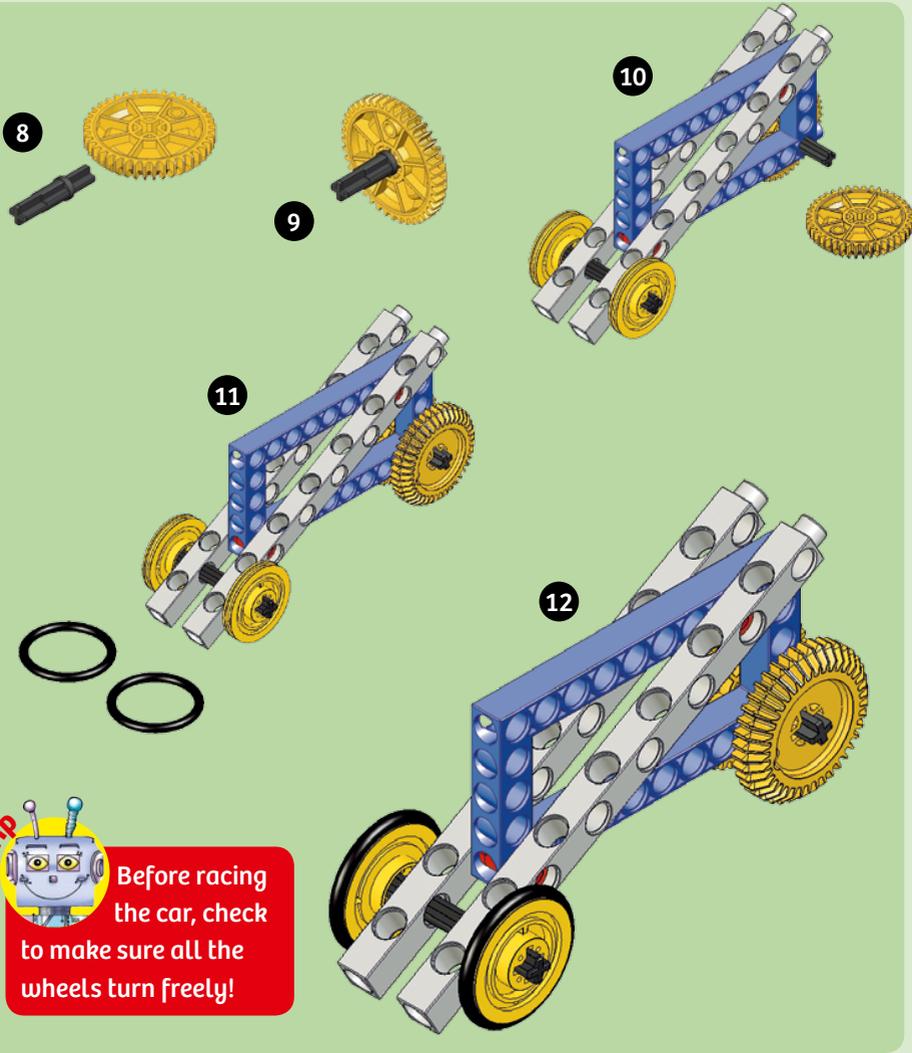
5



6



7



Tip Before racing the car, check to make sure all the wheels turn freely!

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

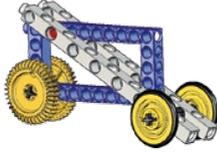
Push your car to make it race across the floor or table! It goes pretty fast — but not by itself. You have to push it to make it go. Or you could let it race down a steep hill. See the experiment on the next page!

EXPERIMENT 6

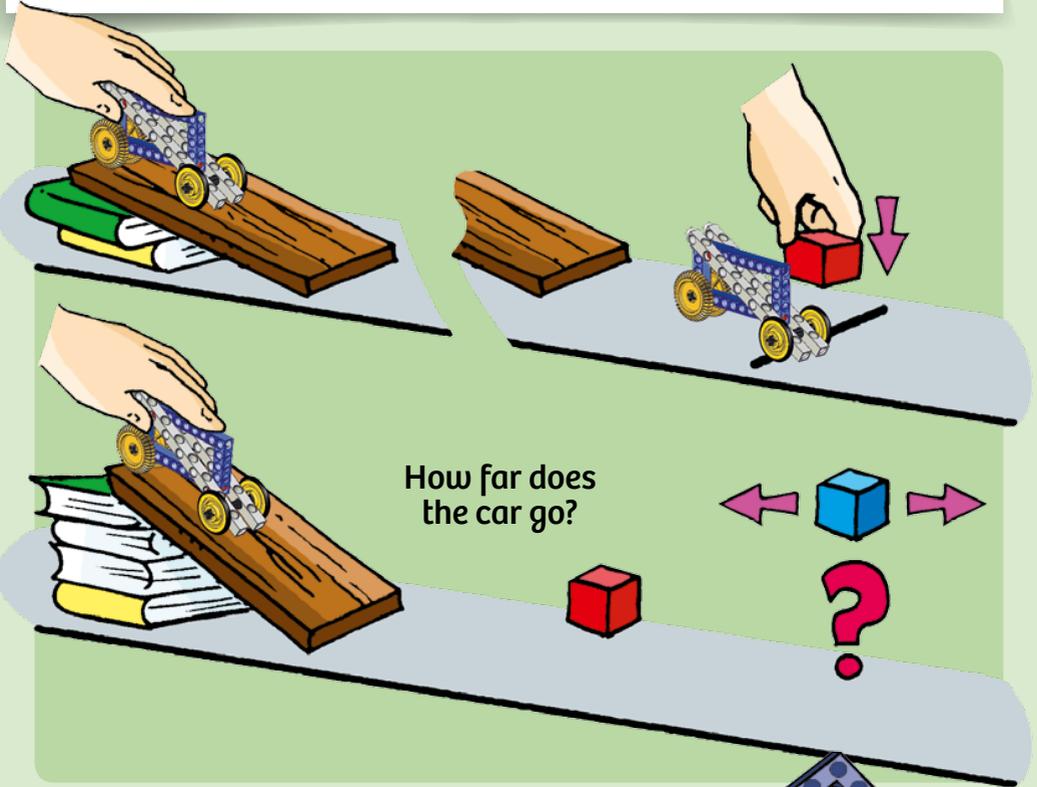
Ramp racing

YOU WILL NEED

Car from the
last experiment

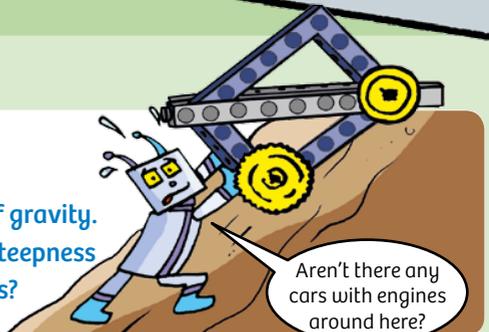


- + Wooden board
- + Several books
- + Toy blocks for marking distance



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

The car rolls down the ramp because of gravity.
Engineering challenge: How does the steepness
of the ramp affect how far the car goes?





EXPERIMENT 7

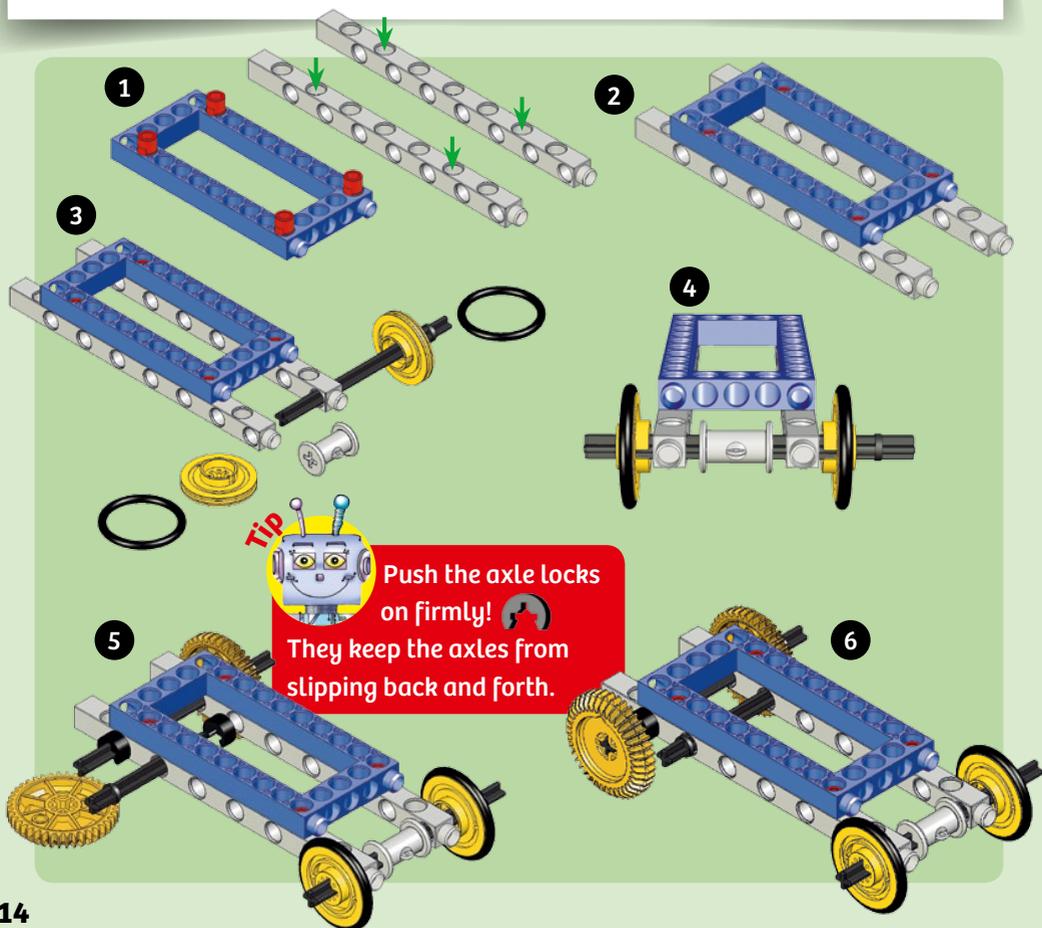


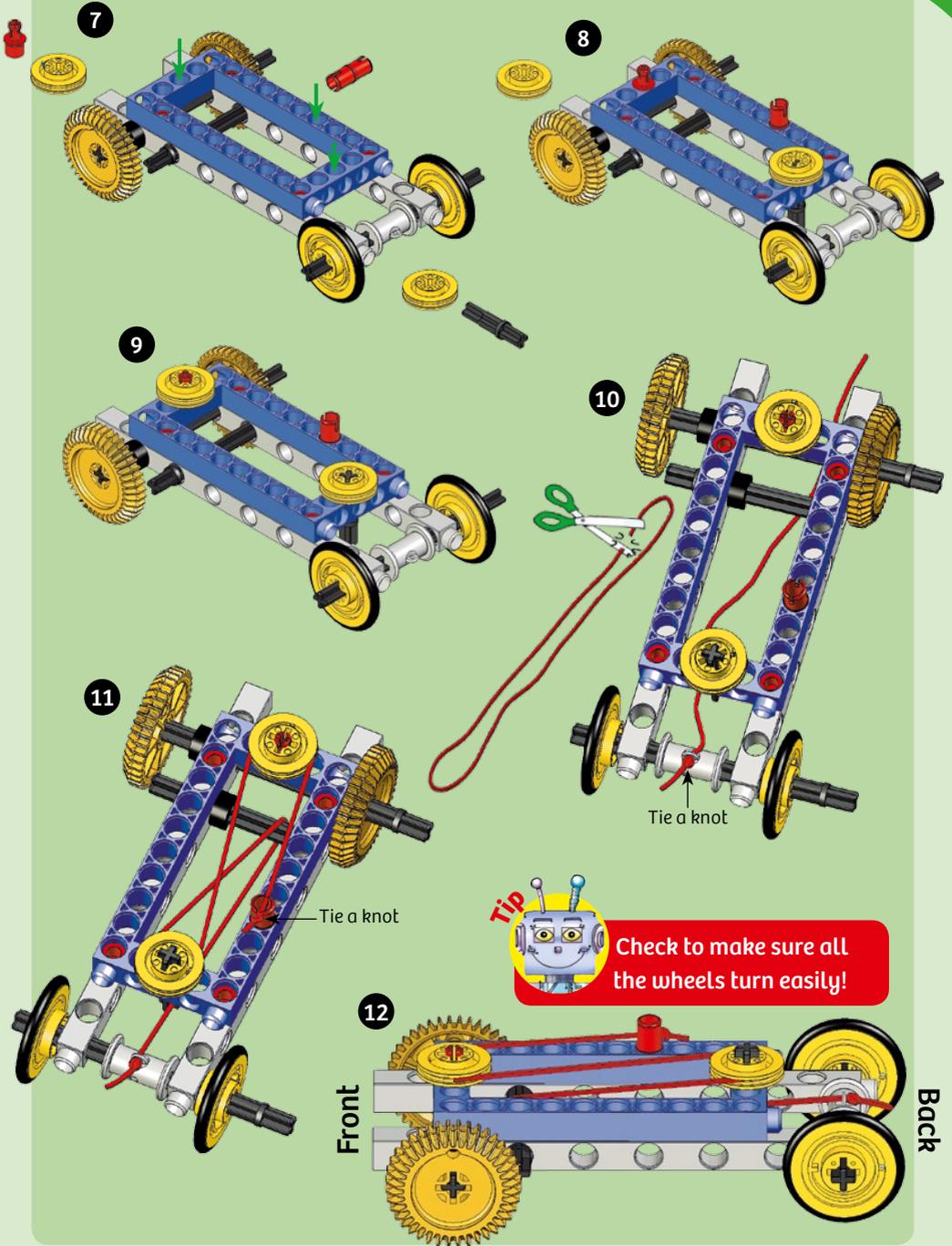
Wind-up car

YOU WILL NEED



+ Scissors

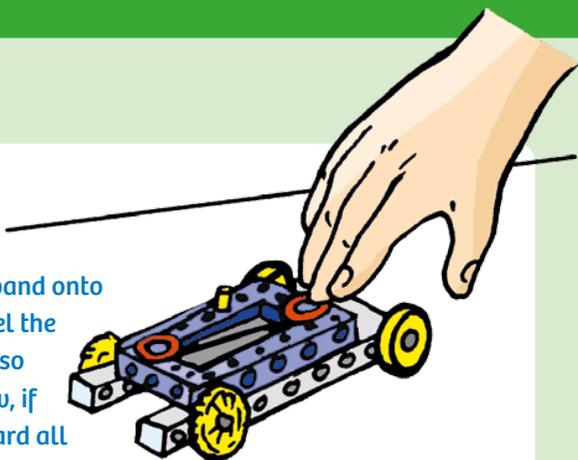




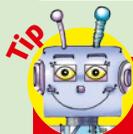
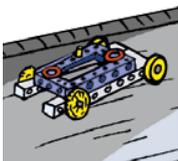
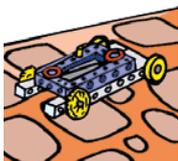
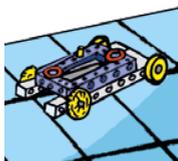
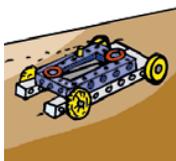


WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Pull your car backwards along the ground. That will wind the rubber band onto the spool and stretch it. Can you feel the resistance get stronger? Then stop, so the rubber band doesn't break. Now, if you let go of the car, it drives forward all by itself! When you wind it up — in other words, when you stretch the rubber band — you store **energy** in the car. When you let it go, this energy is released, and the car drives until the rubber band is slack again.



Where does your car drive best? Try out different surfaces!

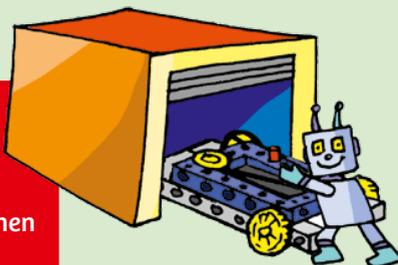


If the wheels slip, check these things:

Did you install the black rubber tires on the rear wheels? Is the rubber band winding up correctly around the spool or is it slipping? When starting, give the car a little push to get it going. Before you wind up the car, the rubber band should sit quite loosely. If necessary, you can move the joint pin to another hole.



Rubber bands can change and become brittle when exposed to light!

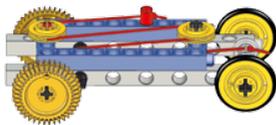


Put your car in a garage!

EXPERIMENT 8

Auto body

YOU WILL NEED



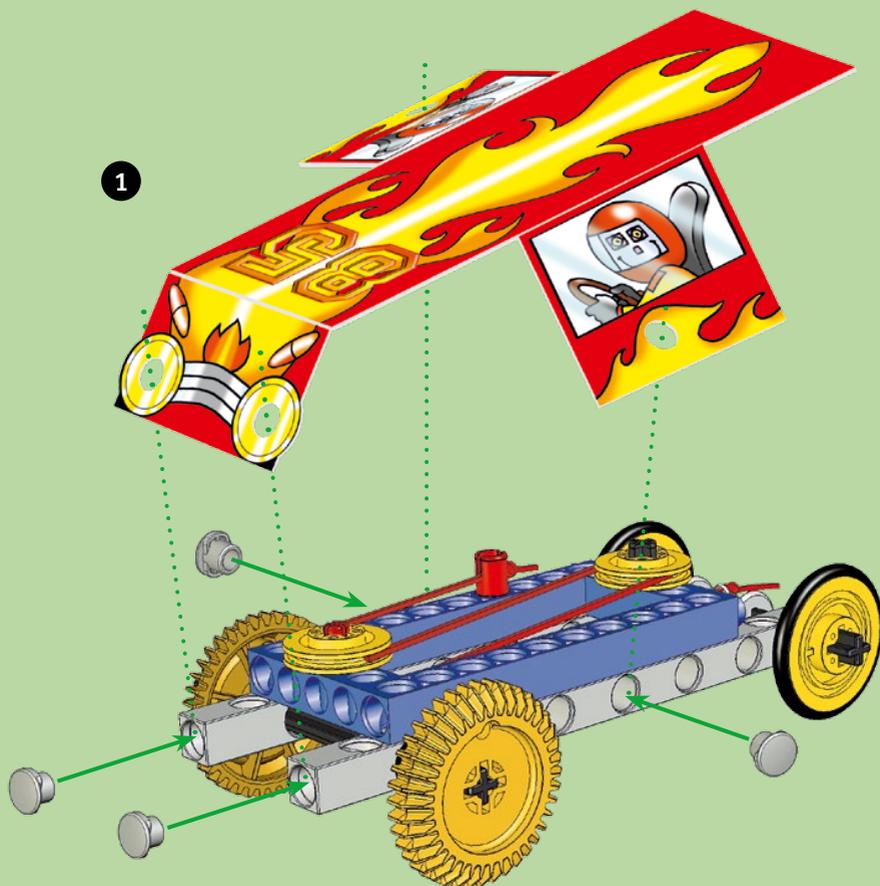
Car from the last experiment

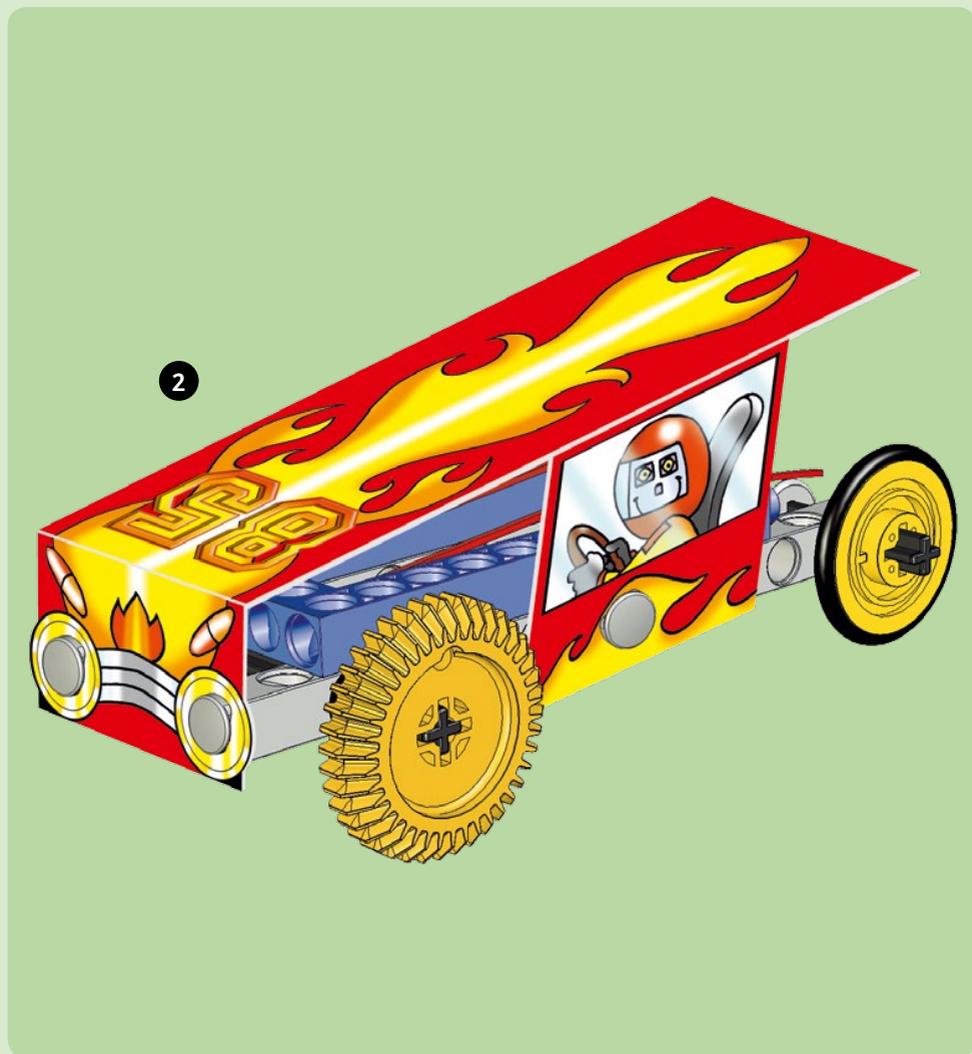


4 X



1





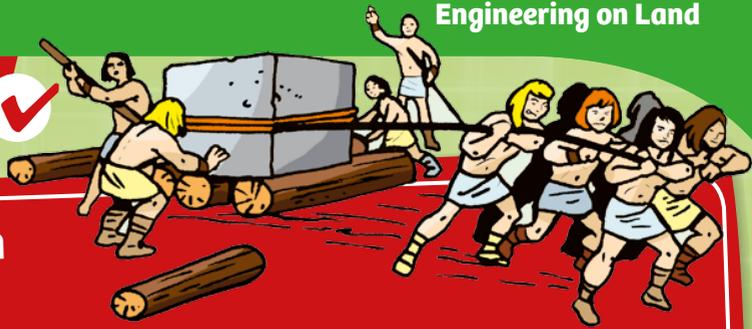
WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Doesn't your car look so much cooler with its outer body covering? The shape of a car's body is important not just for its good looks. A tall, boxy car body has a greater air resistance — and thus uses more fuel — than a low, flat car body.

CHECK IT OUT



The invention of the wheel

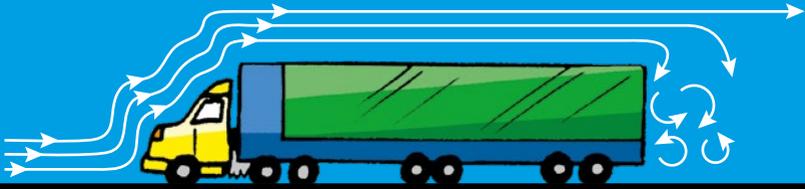


The invention of the wheel was a **revolutionary development** in human history. Wheels allow heavy loads to be transported with ease from one location to another. Before wheels existed, people did things like laying logs on the ground, placing the load on them, and pulling it forward with ropes. The logs had to be continually moved from the back to the front in order to pull the load a few more meters. A laborious task, for sure!



AIR RESISTANCE

The size and shape of a vehicle's body determine its air resistance. A **tall truck** with lots of corners and edges has more resistance. **Racing cars**, on the other hand, are low to the ground and expose only a small surface area to the wind, so the air glides easily around their streamlined shapes. That is one reason they can go so fast.



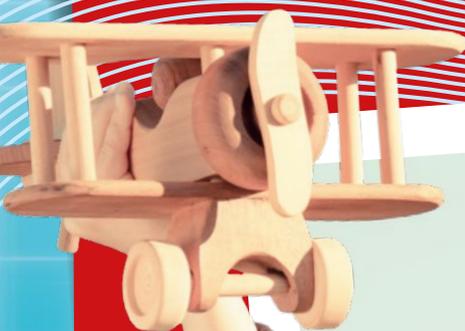
Not a Streamlined Shape



Streamlined Shape



Engineering in the Air



EXPERIMENT 9

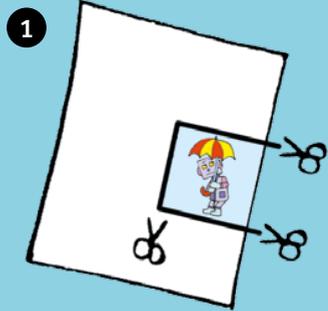


Water glass trick

YOU WILL NEED



- + Scissors
- + Glass
- + Water



Tip

The paper has to cover the glass well all the way around and extend a little beyond the glass's edge!

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Air is strong! You can't see it, but it's there — and it pushes against the paper from below. Even though you have pulled your hand away, the paper won't fall down, and the water stays in the glass.

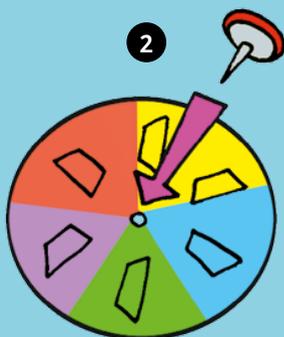




EXPERIMENT 10

Puff-powered wheel

YOU WILL NEED



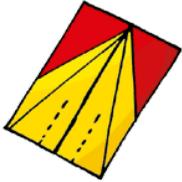
WHAT'S HAPPENING?

You won't need to turn this wheel with your fingers — it is propelled by air! If you hold the straw so that you are blowing directly onto the flaps, the wheel will start turning. The stronger you blow, the faster it turns.

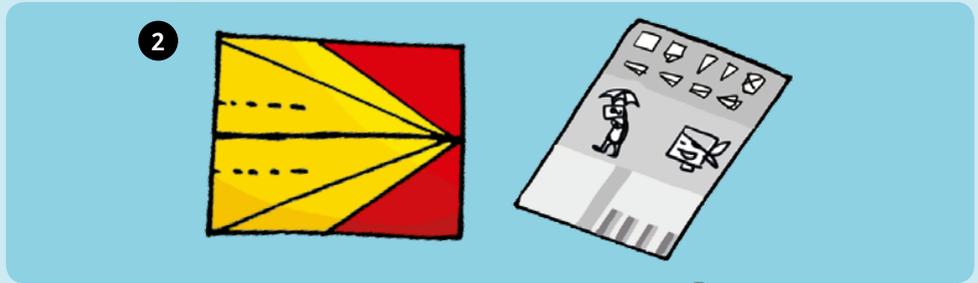
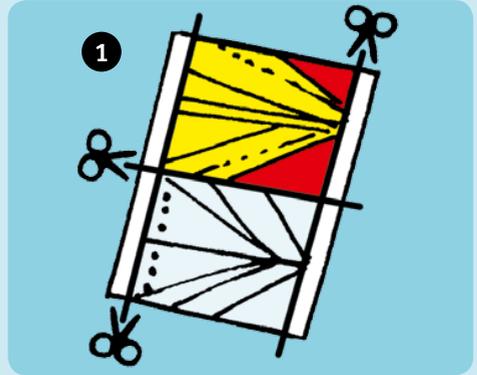
EXPERIMENT 11

Glider

YOU WILL NEED

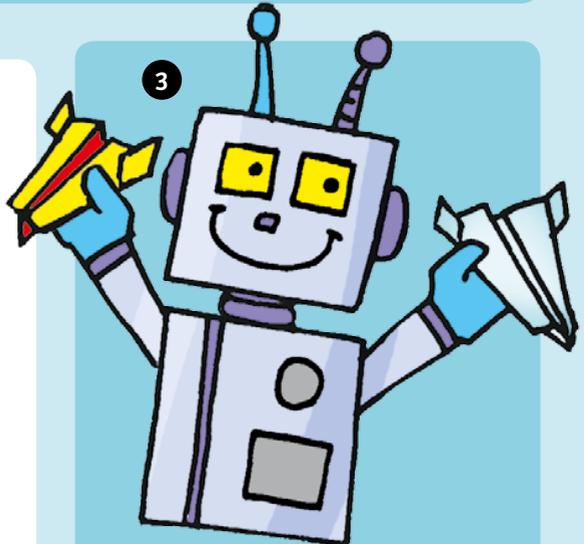


+ Scissors



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Hold your glider tightly by the bottom, throw it forward, and let it go!



This is how the finished gliders look. You will find the assembly instructions on a separate sheet.

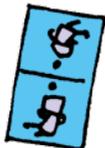
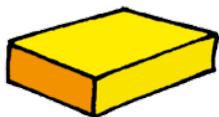


EXPERIMENT 12

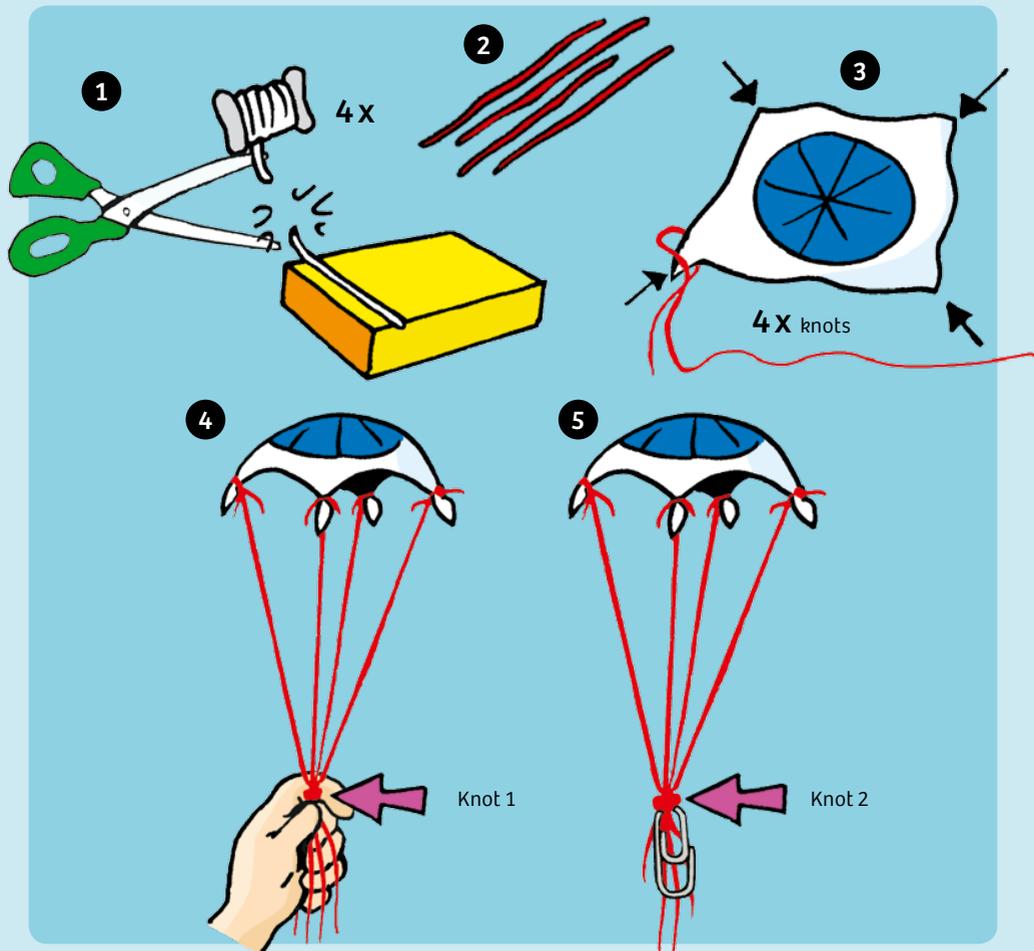


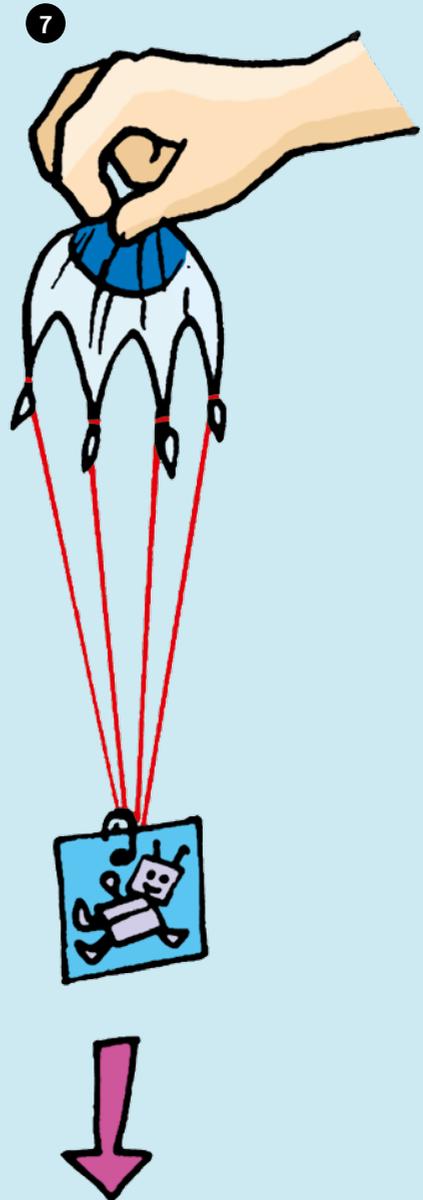
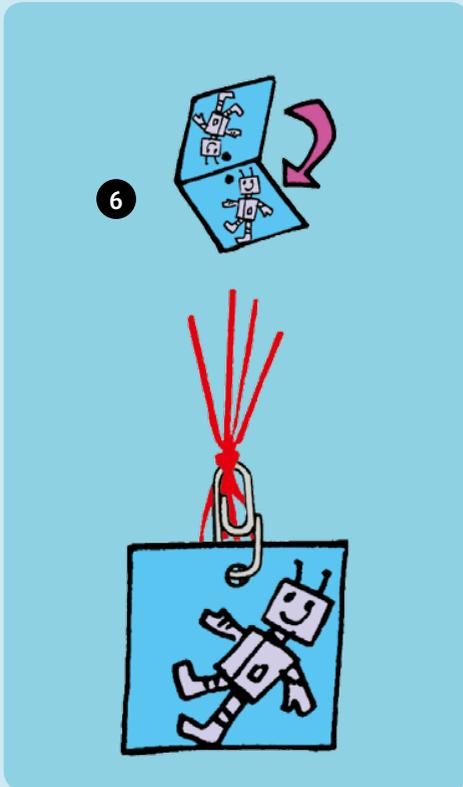
Parachute

YOU WILL NEED



+ Scissors





WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Hold the parachute by the center of the top and let it go. You can also toss it upward in the air a little for a longer falling time. The parachute will spread out and the skydiver will glide softly to Earth, with the air beneath the chute acting as a **brake**. Without the parachute, it would fall to the ground like a stone.



EXPERIMENT 13

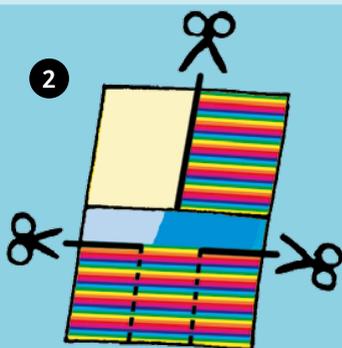
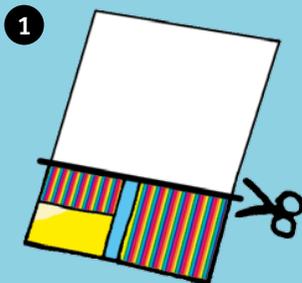
Helicopter

YOU WILL NEED



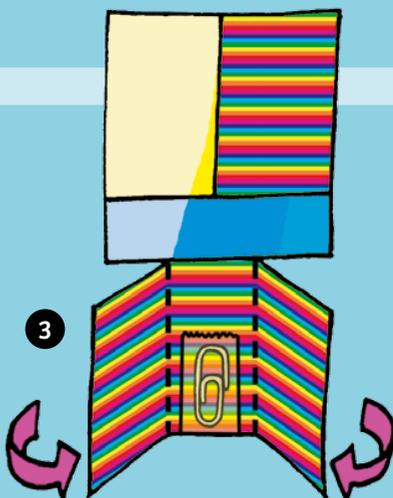
+ Scissors

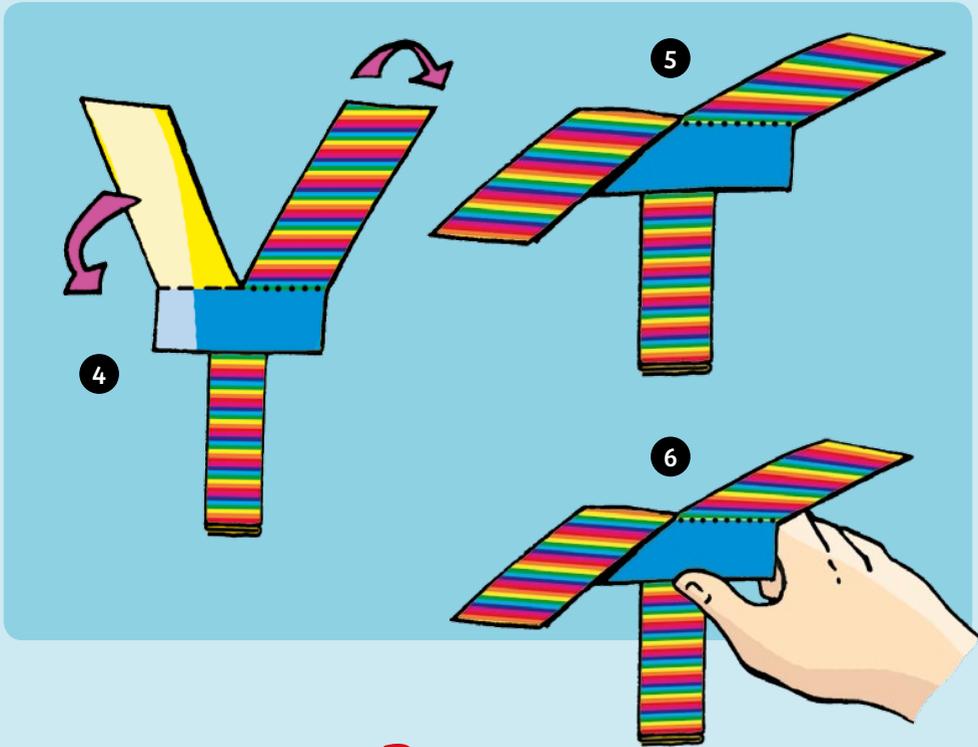
+ Tape



Tip

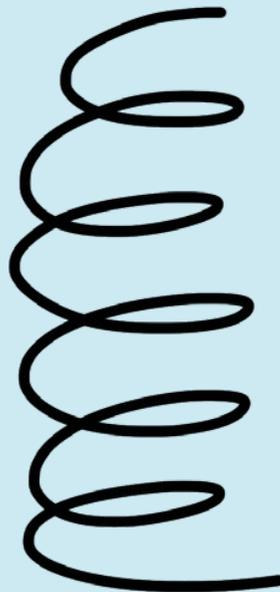
Dotted lines remain visible after folding, dashed lines ----- disappear inside the fold!





WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Hold your helicopter just under the blades and then let it go. It will start to rotate, and will then glide slowly to the ground.





CHECK IT OUT



Well rounded

Did you know that **helicopters** can fly sideways and backward, in addition to up and down? They can even stand still in the air! In addition, a helicopter does not need a runway when taking off or landing, since it can move straight up and down. Because it is so agile, it is often deployed in difficult terrains: to transport the injured after an accident, for mountain rescues, and to save people at sea.

Electrical power from the wind



Did you know that people use wind to generate electricity? In wind farms, the wind is used to drive giant **wind turbines**. The kinetic energy of these windmills is converted into **electrical energy**. So in the beginning, there's wind — and at the end, you get electricity coming out of the wall socket!

CHECK IT OUT



SPACE SCIENTISTS

If you want to fly into space, you need a rocket ship instead of an airplane. From 1981 to 2011, the NASA **Space Shuttle** was used to transport people to and from space. The shuttle takes off like a rocket but returns to Earth like a plane. A **parachute** helps it slow down.

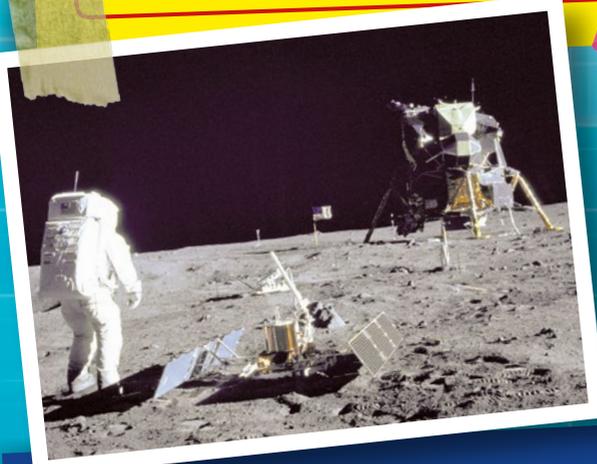
The shuttle flew into space and back 135 times before it was retired in 2011. At the beginning of space travel, that was not possible. A rocket could take off into space, but after its first use it couldn't be used again.

The Space Shuttle was replaced by the Space Launch System to bring astronauts and materials into space.

Take-off



Landing



Trip to the Moon

Did you know that the American **Neil Armstrong** was the first man on the moon? In 1969, he landed there with his rocket and, as he set foot on the moon's surface, said the famous words: "That's one small step for [a] man, one giant leap for mankind."





Engineering in the Water



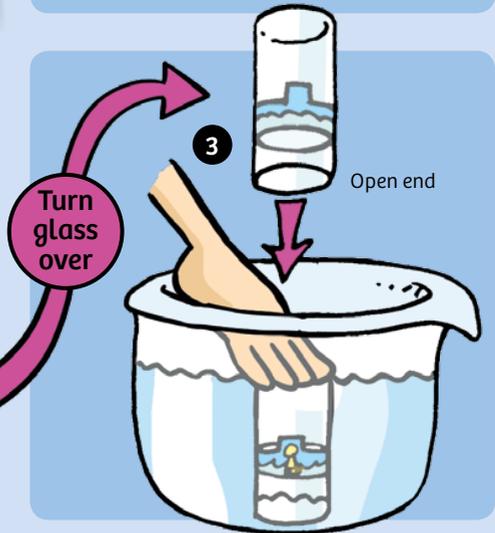
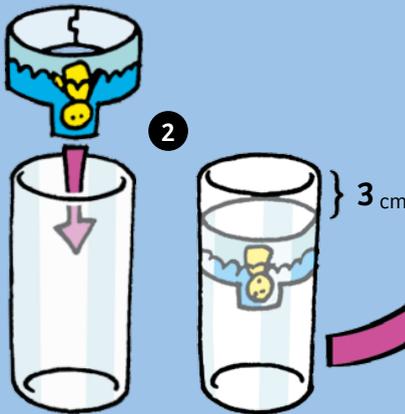
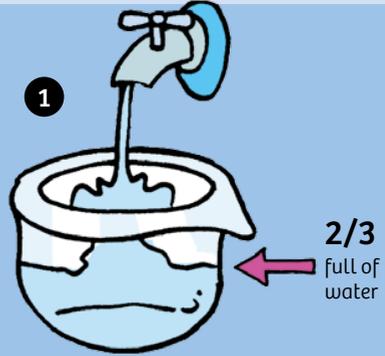
EXPERIMENT 14

The diving bell

YOU WILL NEED

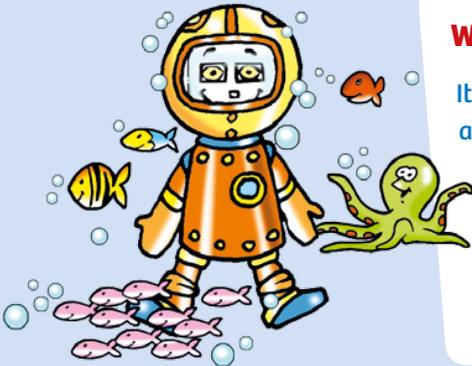


- + Drinking glass with straight sides
- + Mixing bowl (plastic)
- + Water



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

It's true that your glass looks empty, but it is actually full — of air! If you hold the open end of the glass straight down, the air can't get out of the glass. It is compressed by the pressure of the water just a little. The robot can go diving and stay dry!



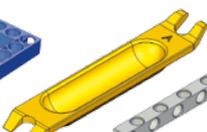


EXPERIMENT 15



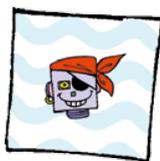
Sailboat

YOU WILL NEED



2x

10x



+ Scissors

+ Sink basin or bathtub

+ Knife

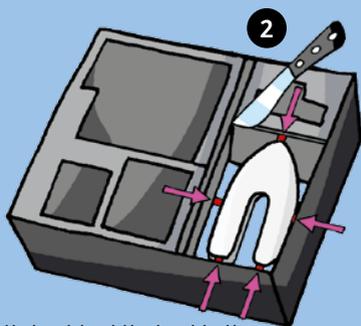
+ Water

+ Tape

+ Captain



1



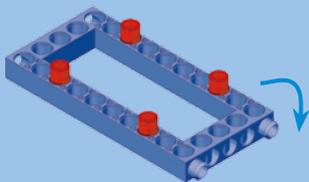
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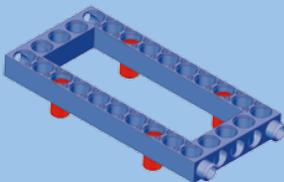


An adult should cut the boat hull out of the polystyrene kit tray.

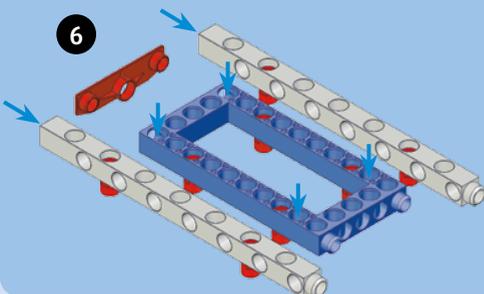
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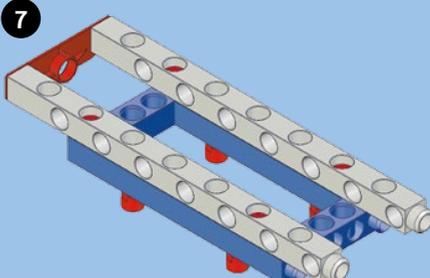
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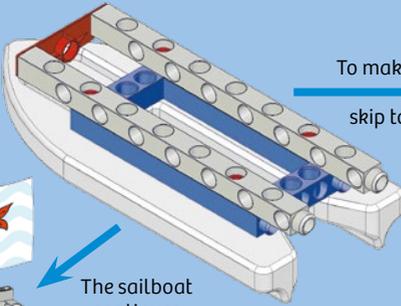
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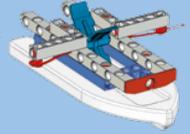
7



8



To make a paddle-wheel boat, skip to the next experiment!

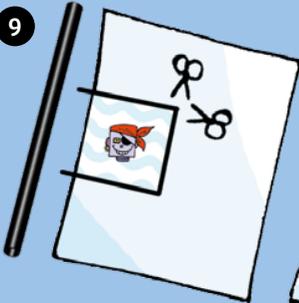


The sailboat continues here!



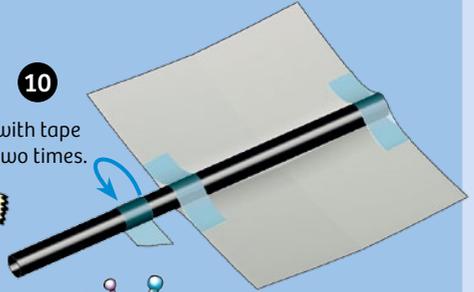
The paddle-wheel boat in the next experiment starts the same as the sailboat.

9



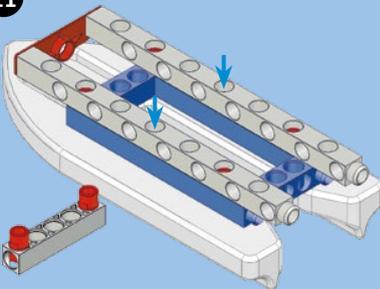
10

Wrap with tape about two times.

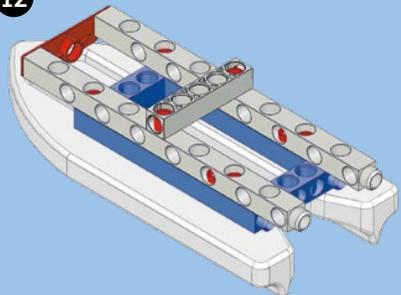


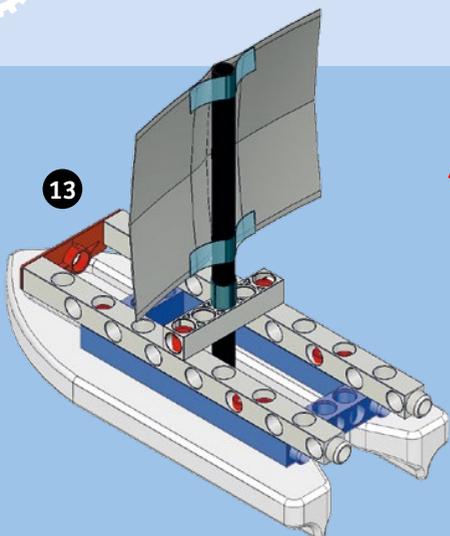
If you wind tape around the bottom of the mast, it will sit snugly without slipping.

11



12



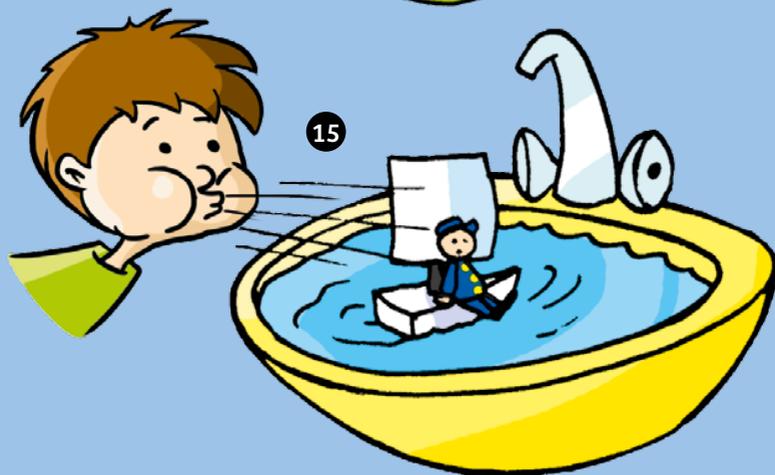


Do you have a captain for your sailboat?



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Blow into the sail from the back and the sailboat will float forward.

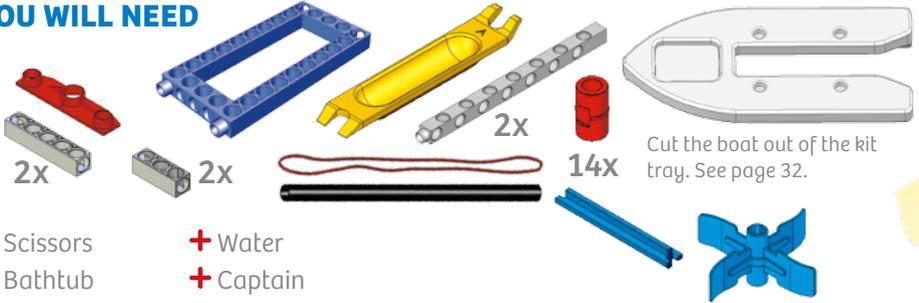


EXPERIMENT 16



Paddle-wheel boat

YOU WILL NEED

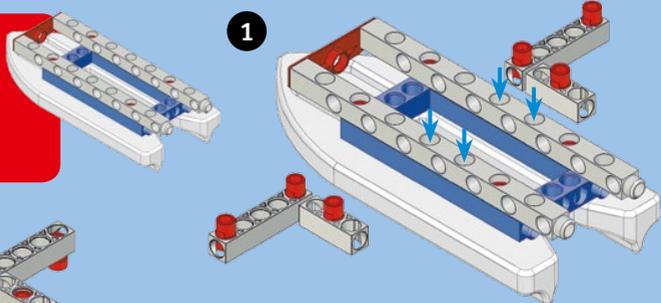


Cut the boat out of the kit tray. See page 32.

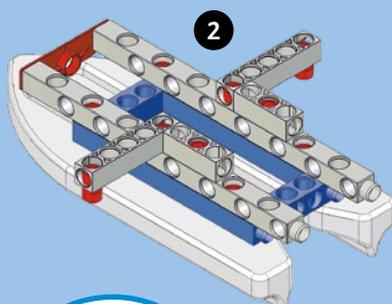
- + Scissors
- + Water
- + Bathtub
- + Captain



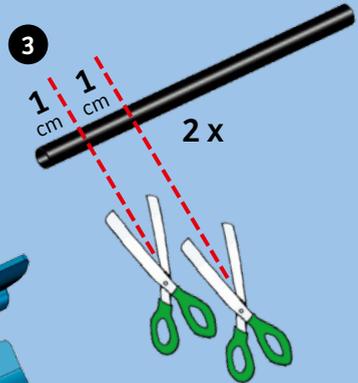
Start assembling the boat exactly as in the last experiment.



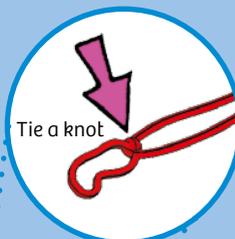
1



2



3

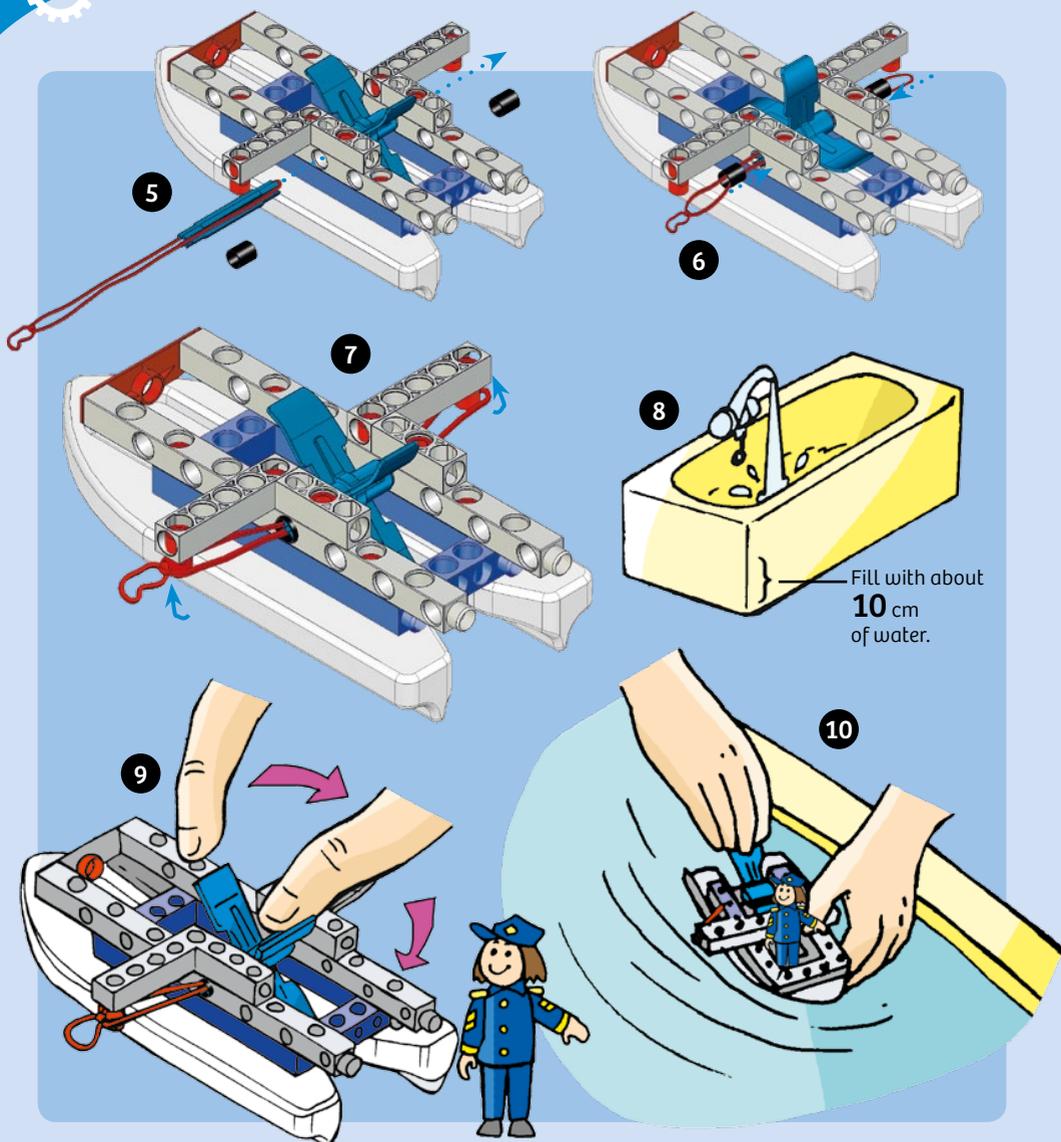


Tie a knot

4



Before winding it up, the rubber band should be stretched tight. Use a knot to shorten it to the proper length.



Fill with about
10 cm
of water.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Energy is stored up in the wound-up rubber band — just like in the wind-up car. When you let go of the paddle wheel, it starts to turn. The blades of the paddle wheel push the water away at the rear and drive the boat forward.

CHECK IT OUT



Wind from the wrong direction?

Did you know that a sailboat can make its way back to harbor even against a **headwind**? By maneuvering cleverly with the sail adjusted at an angle to the wind, the boat can zigzag its way to its destination.



Submerged

If you want to explore the underwater world you need a submarine! There are even unmanned **robotic submarines**. These have no people on board. A diving robot can dive deeper than normal submarines. They are smaller and more agile, and can take the high pressure deep in the ocean.



Engineering at Home



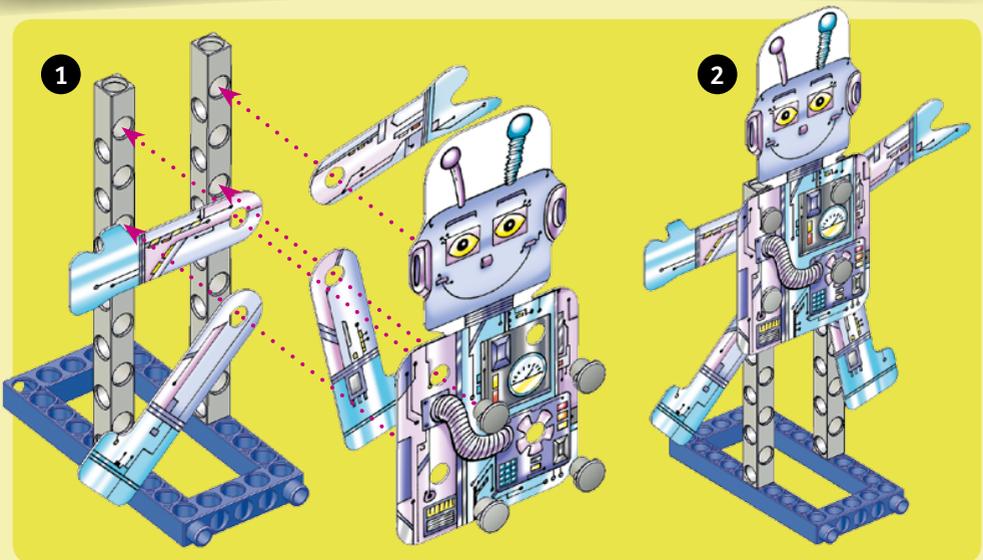
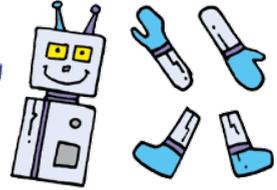
EXPERIMENT 17

Robot model

YOU WILL NEED

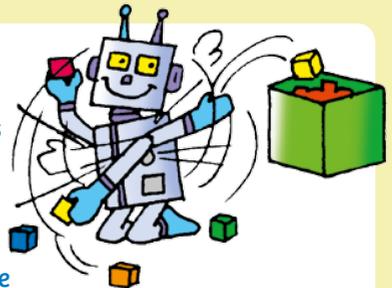


2x



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Robots are **machines**, and they can do many kinds of work more quickly and more precisely than humans. We are always astounded by the latest developments in robotics. What won't a robot be able to do in the future? This pretend robot will be happy to be your personal everyday assistant. What would you like him to give you a hand with? Cleaning up your toys? Calculating the number of hours before your next birthday? Or fetching balls off the roof with his grabbers?





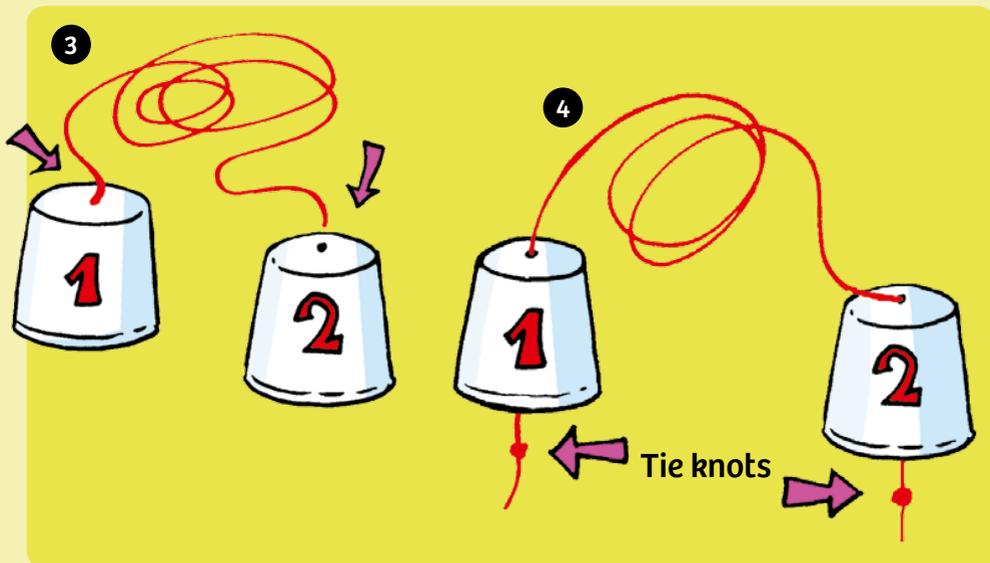
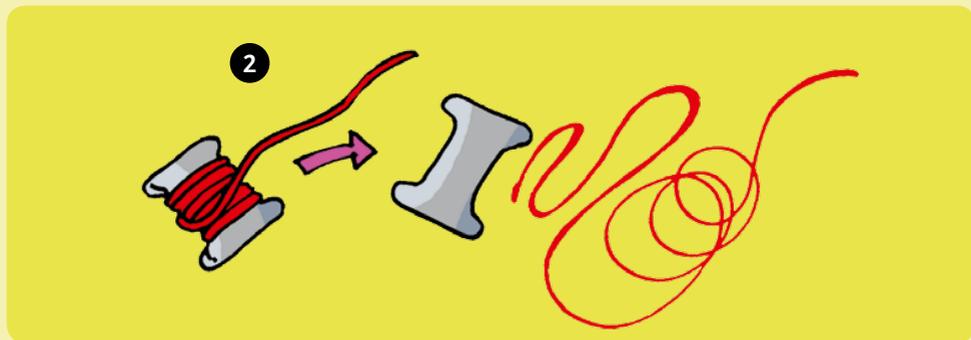
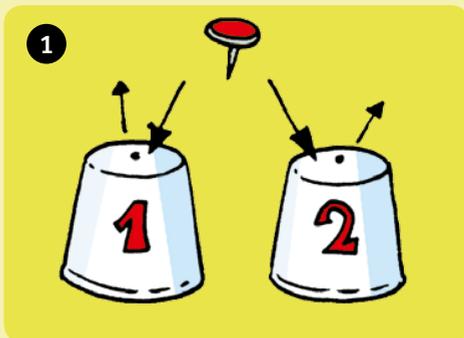
EXPERIMENT 18

String telephone

YOU WILL NEED



+ 2 small empty yogurt containers

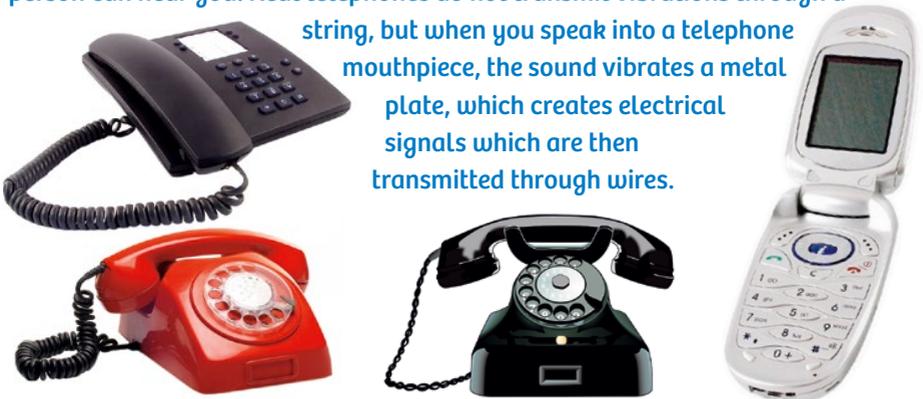




WHAT'S HAPPENING?

When you speak into the plastic cup, the bottom of the cup starts to vibrate. The vibration is transferred to the string, which also starts to vibrate. The louder the sound, the stronger the vibration. The higher the sound, the faster the vibration. Then, it passes its vibrations on to the floor of the other cup, where the other person can hear you. Real telephones do not transmit vibrations through a

string, but when you speak into a telephone mouthpiece, the sound vibrates a metal plate, which creates electrical signals which are then transmitted through wires.



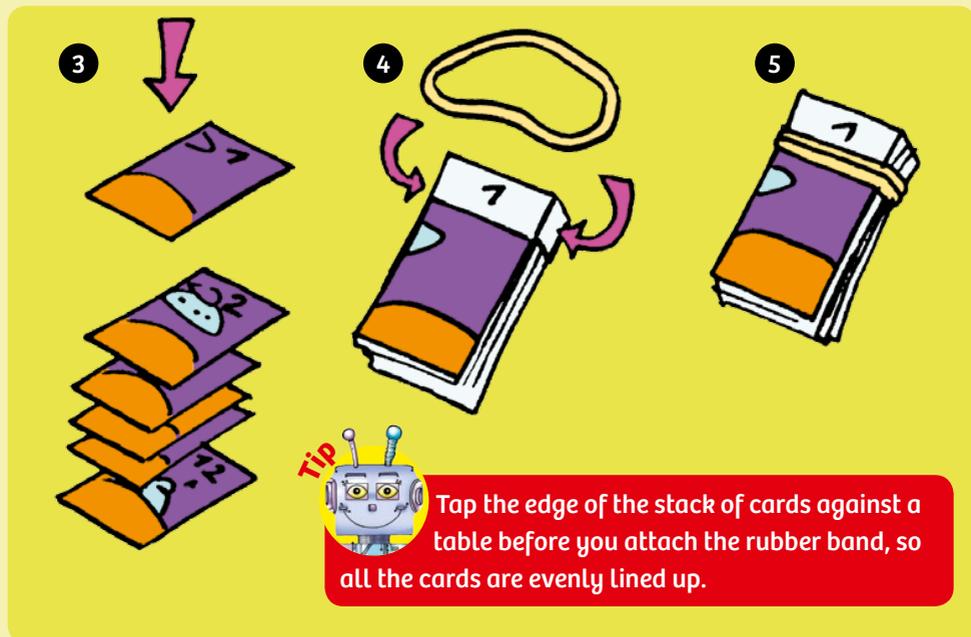
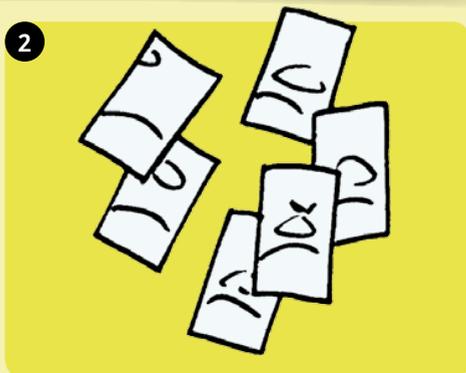
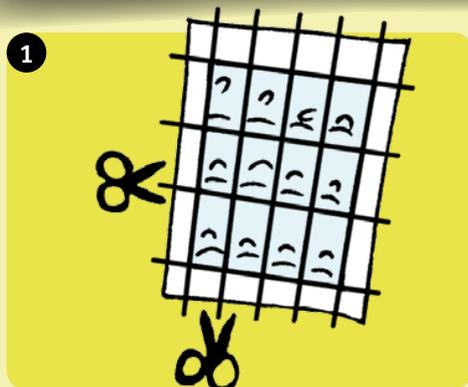


EXPERIMENT 19

Flip book TV

YOU WILL NEED

+ Scissors

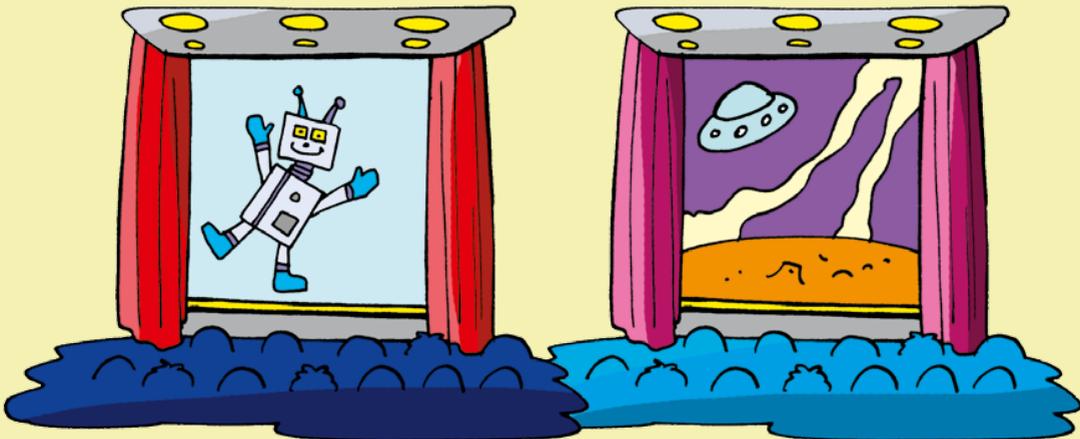


Tip Tap the edge of the stack of cards against a table before you attach the rubber band, so all the cards are evenly lined up.



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Just like a real **movie**, the flip book displays lots of individual pictures, one after the other. Each picture changes a little bit from the one before it. When you run your thumb along the edge, you quickly flip through all the pictures in a row. Your eye and brain are too slow to perceive the individual images, so they flow together into one continuous image that appears to move.





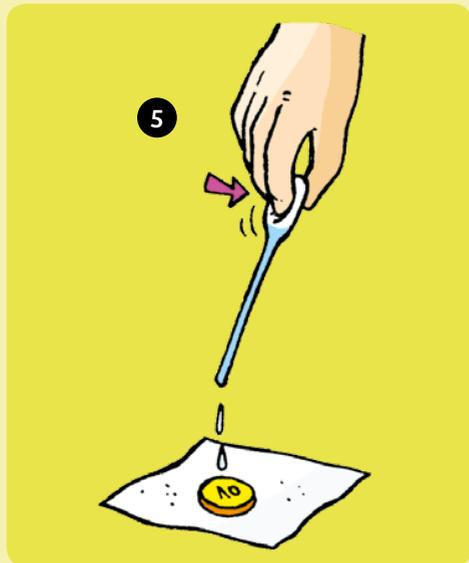
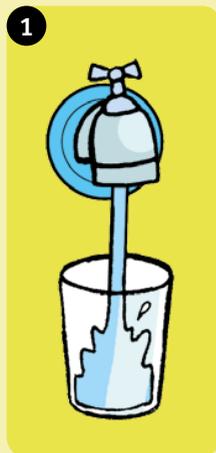
EXPERIMENT 20

Mound of water

YOU WILL NEED



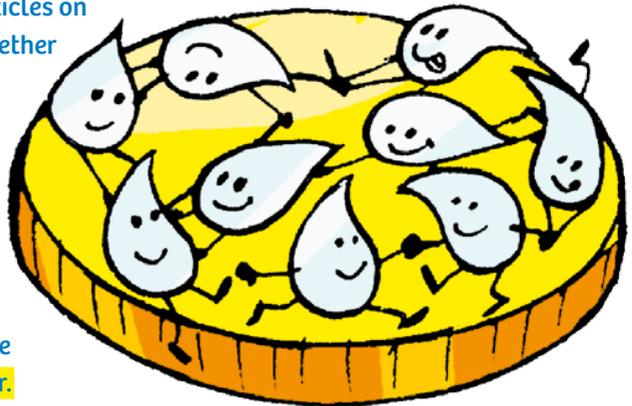
- + Coin
- + Plastic cup
- + Water
- + Paper towel





WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Water is composed of lots of little particles that you can't see. But they have an interesting property: They attract one another — as if they were all latched together. When you add a water drop to the mound of water, its particles latch onto the other water particles on the coin. They attach together so strongly that the surface of the water bulges up and none of the water flows away until a certain point when there is too much water. This attraction force is referred to as the surface tension of water.





Water-drop lens

YOU WILL NEED

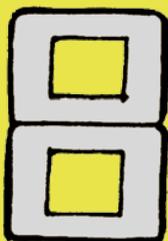


- + Glue
- + Plastic cup

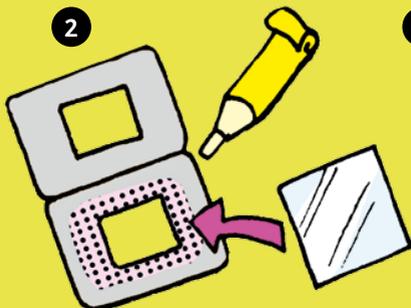
- + Water
- + Paper towels for drying

Remove the protective paper from the film.

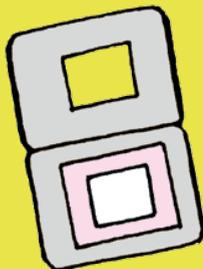
1



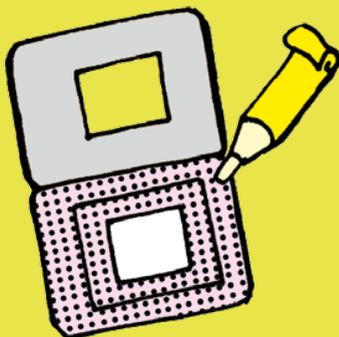
2



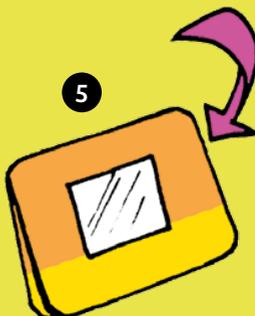
3

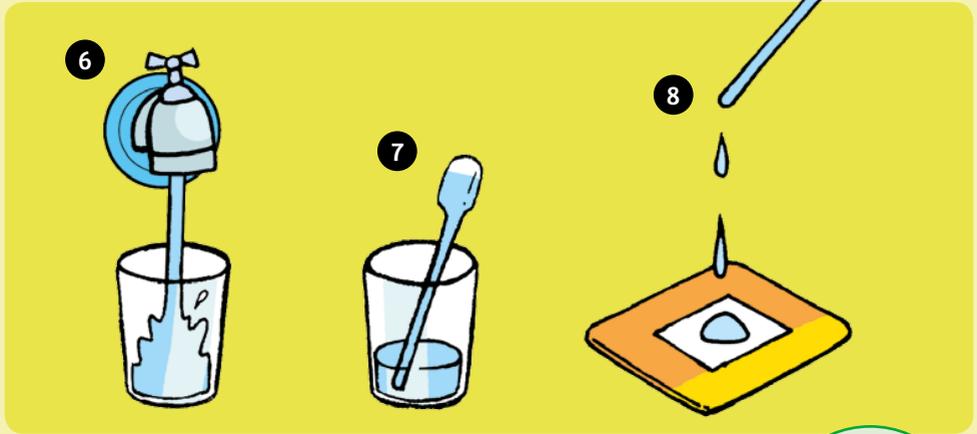


4



5





WHAT'S HAPPENING?

The water drop on the plastic film works like a **lens**. The curve of the lens causes light refraction, which means that light rays change their direction when they hit the lens. That is why **small objects look really big** when you look at them through the lens!



CHECK IT OUT



Don't drink these lenses!



The lens of a magnifying glass has the same shape as the mound of water in the last experiment. In a magnifying glass, the lens is made of **glass**, so you can't drink it!



Microscope



A **microscope** is like a really strong magnifying glass. It contains several lenses, so it can attain a much greater magnification. A magnifying lens shows objects 10 to 20 times larger, but a microscope can magnify things by more than 1,000 times! The record is held by the electron microscope, which works with electron beams instead of rays of light. It provides images that are magnified over 1,000,000 times!





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Technical product development: Monika Schall, Dr. Petra Müller
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