



Sciencenter At-Home: Roller Coasters

Build and experiment with your own roller coaster!

In this activity, learners will design and test a roller coaster out using balls and foam tubes.

Materials:

- 1" foam pipe insulation tubing **or** pool noodles
- Painter's tape
- Different balls (ping pong, golf, bouncy, etc.)
- Marbles



Try this:

To prepare:

Cut the insulation or noodles in half lengthwise. The result should be two long pieces of u-shaped foam.

Activity:

Work with your child to set up the insulation tube so that a ball can roll down it.

Start simple with a coaster that travels from high to low! Prompt your child with questions like:

- Where should we start?
- Where do you think the ball will go?
- How can we get the ball to move there?



