



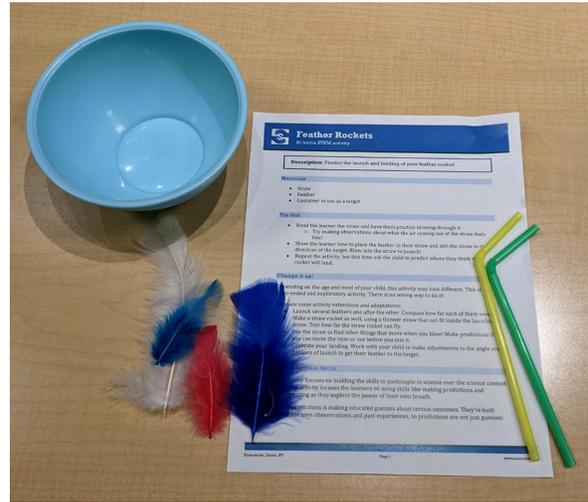
Sciencenter At-Home: Feather Rockets

Predict the launch and landing of your feather rocket!

In this activity, learners will make and launch feather rockets.

Materials:

- Straw
- Feather
- Container to use as a target



Try this:

Have your child practice blowing air through the straw. Try making observations about what the air coming out of the straw feels like!

Show your child how to place the feather in their straw and aim the straw in the direction of the target. Blow into the straw to launch!

Repeat the activity, but this time ask the child to predict where they think their feather rocket will land.

Change it up!

Depending on the age and need of your child, this activity may look different. This is an open-ended and exploratory activity. There is no wrong way to do it!

Here are some activity extensions and adaptations:

- Launch several feathers one after the other. Compare how far each of them went.
- Make a straw rocket as well, using a thinner straw that can fit inside the launching straw. Test how far the straw rocket can fly.
- Use the straw to find other things that move when you blow! Make predictions if you can move the item or not before you test it.

- Calibrate your landing. Work with your child to make adjustments to the angle and distance of launch to get their feather to the target.

Science process skills

This activity focuses on building the skills to participate in science over the science content itself. This activity focuses the learners on using skills like making predictions and experimenting as they explore the power of their own breath.

Making predictions is making educated guesses about certain outcomes. They're built around our own observations and past experiences, so predictions are not just guesses! When guiding children through this activity, encourage them to recall where the feather landed last to help them predict where it may land this time.

Experimenting or exploring allows us to test predictions to see an outcome or how we can find an answer to a question. When guiding children through this activity, encourage them to test different variables like distance from target or angle of launch.

This activity exists in many versions. This adaptation was inspired by Predicting: Feather Rockets from the Collaborative for Early Science Learning copyright 2021, Sciencenter, Ithaca NY.
Retrieved from: <http://www.sciencenter.org/perch/resources/predicting-3.pdf>