

Straw Rockets

Name: _____

Date: _____

Materials

1. Tape
2. A pair of two different sizes of drinking straws
3. Label stickers (or use tape)
4. Fin pattern (see photo below)
5. Scissors



Pre-Lab Questions

1. Give some examples of fluids.

Procedure

1. Wrap a label sticker or a 7.5 cm piece of tape over one end of the larger straw to close off the opening.
2. Carefully cut out three fins.
3. Using two pieces of tape approximately 1.25 centimeters long, tape each fin about 2.5 centimeters from the back opening of the straw.
4. Place the smaller straw into the larger straw rocket and blow into the smaller straw.
5. If the straw does not fly level, add tape near the front of the glider or just behind the fins.
6. Use a small breath and measure the distance the rocket traveled.
7. Use a big breath and measure the distance the rocket traveled.

Data

Sample Data Table: The Effect of Air “Push” on a Straw Rocket

Trial	Small breath	Big breath	Distance traveled (cm)	Observations
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

Questions

1. Did the small breath or the big breath make the rocket travel farther?
2. Can you think of one thing that would make your rocket travel farther?
3. Why is air a fluid?
4. Can you think of other fluids?

