



Mad Scientists-Catapults

Background

Catapults have been used since Ancient Greece through modern times. They were originally invented to hurl things farther than a human could and made great siege weapons. This means that soldiers could wait out the other side and hurl items to weaken opposing forces.

To make your own:

1. Stack 7 craft sticks on top of each other. Add rubber bands at both ends.



2. Stack 2 craft sticks on top of each other. Add rubber bands at one end.



3. Split the two stick set so it goes over the 7 stick pile.



4. Wrap a rubber band around the middle of both so it makes a T shape.

5. Slide a plastic spoon through the middle rubber band so it lies flat against the top craft stick.



When you have finished your catapult, visit our shooting area to try it out. Are you able to hit the targets? Would heavier or lighter ammunition (pom poms) work better? Is there something that you could do to your catapult to make it launch better?