

SPACE CAMP

SECTION 1: BALLOON ME TO THE MOON



Westminster College

OBJECTIVES:

The biggest obstacle in getting into space is overcoming gravity. A rocket produces a pushing force, called thrust, to overcome gravity.

MATERIALS:

- balloons
- string
- 2 chairs
- masking tape
- 1 straw
- scissors

PREPARATION:

1. Thread $\frac{1}{2}$ of a straw onto a light-weight strings.
2. Tie the string between two chairs and place the chairs the length of the room. Make sure the string is taut.
3. Slide the straw to one end of the string.

PROCEDURE:

1. Give each student a balloon. In turn, each team blows up the balloon, keeping the opening securely pinched (do not tie).
2. The student holds the balloon under the straw wherever they want it to be taped. Make sure the opening faces the nearest chair.
3. Tape a 5 inch piece of tape over the straw and onto the balloon.
4. When ready, countdown 5-4-3-2-1- BLAST OFF! Student will let go of the balloon.
5. Measure how far the balloon traveled down the string. Student will record the distance.
6. Each student/team will get a turn.