

Paper Airplane Launcher

Name: _____

Student worksheet

Date: _____

Directions: Complete each section as described.

1. Use these data tables to record how far you and your partner can throw your paper airplane. Remember to fill in your units of measurement.

Throwing with entire arm		
	Distance (units: _____)	
Trial	Student 1 (Name: _____)	Student 2 (Name: _____)
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
Average		

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Throwing only with wrist		
	Distance (units: _____)	
Trial	Student 1 (Name: _____)	Student 2 (Name: _____)
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
Average		

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2. Draw at least one design for a paper airplane launcher. Label the materials you will use.

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4. What part of your design stores potential energy?
5. Where does the paper airplane get its kinetic energy?
6. Build your design and test it to make sure it works. Write down any problems you notice with your design here.
7. Write down any changes or improvements you made to your design.

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8. Test your airplane launcher and record your results in this table.

Using rubber band launcher		
	Distance (units: _____)	
Trial	Student 1 (Name: _____)	Student 2 (Name: _____)
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
Average		

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9. Make a bar graph of your results. It should have two sets of bars (one for each student). The x-axis should have the different launching methods (whole arm, wrist only, launcher). The y-axis should be the flight distance (do not forget to include units).

10. What conclusions can you draw from your experiments based on your results?