Science at Home



Aircraft Carrier

Materials Needed:

- 4 pieces of paper
- 4 coins
- Tape

Explore the concept of Lift and Air Friction with Paper Airplanes

- 1. Make 4 different paper airplane designs.
- 2. Tape your coins to the paper airplanes.
- 3. Try to fly them.
- 4. Make adjustment to see if you can do better
- 5. How far can you carry coins with a paper airplane?
- 6. What is the best design for carrying coins on a paper airplane?

Science Behind the Science You See

Air resistance is created by the surface area of the paper and the force of friction. Together these resist the force of gravity. Additionally, Bernoulli's principle of lift plays an important part when flying airplanes. Low pressure above a wing and high pressure below the wing creates an imbalance of pressure which in turn creates lift that pushes up on the bottom of the airplane wing.

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