

## Making simple catapults

Simple catapults are a good way of linking science and DT. After learning about levers pupils can then design, build and evaluate a catapult.

## Coathanger catapult

1. Use a metal coathanger



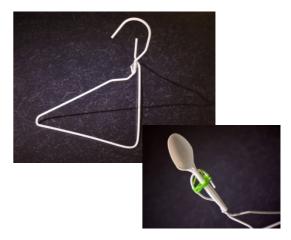
2. Hold the hook and base of the hanger, and pull them apart. (It helps if you pretend you're using a bow and arrow). The coathanger will form a diamond shape



3. Bend the coathanger in half using the edge of a desk. The bend should go between the original corner points of the coathanger.



4. Bend the corners of the coathanger towards each other, and you will end up with the catapult frame. The hook could be modified to make it easier to fire the missiles (paper balls!).





















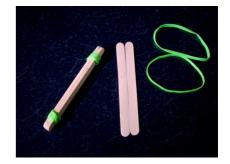


## Lollystick Catapult

1. You will need 6 lollipop sticks and 4 elastic bands.



2. Take four of the lolly sticks and place them on top of each other. Hold them together using an elastic band at each end.



3. Using the two remaining lolly sticks, join them at one end using an elastic band. Put the stack of four lolly sticks in between them.



4. Use the final elastic band to hold the stack in place. Your catapult is complete.



5. The design can be modified using another elastic band and a spoon. You can also investigate how the position of the stacked sticks affects how well the catapult works.



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