

FLYING SAUCERS



SUPERNOVA
DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY | HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

LEARN ABOUT THE CONCEPTS OF FLIGHT, AIR PRESSURE AND AIR RESISTANCE!

MATERIALS

4

- 1 large paper plate
- Scissors
- Coloured pencils
- Markers

30 MINS

PROCEDURE

Step 1

On the backside of the paper plate, draw a circle around the perimeter of the plate. Then, using a marker, cut the circle in halves multiple times so that you have 12 "pie pieces" drawn on your plate.

Step 2

Cut along the lines of the pie pieces, but don't cut around the perimeter of the pie.

Step 3

Bend the triangles up and down, in an alternating pattern.

Step 4

Time to get creative! Decorate your new flying saucer however you wish.

Step 5

To test your flying saucer, ideally give it a go from the top of a flight of stairs (with parent supervision). Be sure to give it some spin, and watch your saucer fly!

TRY OUT SOME DIFFERENT DESIGNS! WHAT WORKED BEST?

PURPOSE & SCIENCE OUTCOMES

- The disk has a large surface area which helps the disc from falling quickly due to gravity.
- The disc is slowed by the air below it, making the disc seem to hover momentarily - this is air resistance.
- The faster the object's motion, the greater the air resistance exerted against it.

ANY QUESTIONS? REACH OUT @SUPERNOVAATDAL