## Activity 2: Craft Stick Catapult

Have a fun battle against your juice box boats with this activity.

### Supplies

* Jumbo craft sticks
* Rubber bands
* Plastic bottle cap.
* Glue
* Pom poms, little pebbles, or marbles
* Paints and paint brushes (optional)

### Instructions

1. You can customize your catapult by painting your craft sticks. Let them dry.
2. Stack eight craft sticks together, one on top of the other and wrap elastics (rubber bands) around the ends to hold them together. This stack is your fulcrum.
3. Take a single craft stick and place it perpendicular to the stack on the bottom, start by setting the fulcrum about a quarter of the way up the single stick. For extra stability, you can slide the popsicle stick between the last stick in the fulcrum, so it is sandwiched in.
4. Add a second single stick, perpendicularly, on top of the fulcrum so that it lines up with the bottom stick.
5. Attach the two sticks with a rubber band on the end so you create a V shape. Note: If the elastics are not staying in place, make small notches on either side of the craft sticks so there is a ledge for the rubber band.
6. Note: This step is optional but may add more stability to your catapult. Secure the V to the fulcrum using another rubber band in a figure 8 pattern. So one end goes under one end of the fulcrum on one side of the V, crosses in an X over the top of the V and the other end goes under the fulcrum on the other side of the V.
7. On the opposite end from the rubber band attaching the two sticks, glue on the bottle cap. Make sure to leave a little bit of room at the end for your fingers to push down to launch.

Your catapult is complete. Try adjusting your design by adding more sticks to the fulcrum or change out the stack of sticks for a cork. Make as many adjustments as you want until you’re happy with your design. You may need a spotter to help aim your catapult.

Adapted from [Steam Powered Family](https://www.steampoweredfamily.com/activities/popsicle-stick-catapult/)