



Balloon Rockets STEM Activity

Why is it important to include opportunities for students to engage in STEM experiences?

Early childhood educators should include STEM activities in the classroom to encourage students to think critically and to engage in scientific inquiry and exploration. As they participate in the activity, they will learn a variety of concepts, including the scientific method. Encourage students to utilize the scientific method to enhance their understanding of the activity as they investigate the how, why, what if, and I wonder types of questions as they perform the experiment.

Follow these six steps of the scientific method for preschoolers:

Ask- What are the children curious about?

Imagine- What do they think will happen if they investigate their curiosities?

Plan- What steps should they take to try out their ideas?

Create- Try out their thoughts and ideas.

Improve- How could they change the process to create a different outcome?

Share- Talk about the children's new ideas and what they have learned

Required Materials:

- String or Yarn
- Balloon
- Plastic Straw
- Tape

1. Create a Path

Tie one end of a long piece of string or yarn around the back of a chair.

2. Prep the Balloon

Inflate the balloon, but do not tie off the end. Tape a straw to the balloon, and thread the string through the straw.

3. Ready, Set, Launch!

Release the balloon and watch it speed down its launch path!

Scan this QR Code to view this activity on our [website](#) and to check out more of our [Insights and Inspirations](#) articles!

