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| **Activity title** |
| **Snowball Catapult** |
| **Time required** |
| 5 minutes |
| **Activity summary** |
| Create your very own snowball catapult and see how far you can fire them. |
| **By the end of this activity, you will be able to:** |
| Engineer a catapult that harnesses potential energy and then releases it quickly, transferring that **potential energy into movement** as the snowball is fired off into the distance. |
| **What equipment will you need?** |
| 9 x lollipop sticks  2 x elastic bands  cotton wool balls |
| **How to do it** |
| **Step 1**  Stack 5 of the lollipop sticks on top of one another.  **Step 2**  Take the 6th lollipop stick and place it across the stack of 5 sticks in the shape of a cross.  **Step 3**  Place the remaining 3 sticks on top of the ‘cross’ stick, in the same way as the first 5 lollipop sticks.  **Step 4**  Wrap the elastic bands tightly around the thick stack of lollipop sticks at either end.  **Step 5**  Pull a piece of cotton wool from your cotton wool ball and roll it around to make a snowball.  **Step 6**  Place the snowball on the longest end of the ‘cross’ stick, press down on the shorter end using one hand.  **Step 7**  Using the other hand, press back on the snowball and then fire! |
| **You could also** |
| For more content from Marvellous Marthy have a go at our Rocket Rudolph activity or, to extend your catapult design skills, try the Marshmallow catapult activity.  Both can be found in Santa’s STEM Workshop. |
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