

Cotton Ball Catapult

0507.11.3 Design and conduct experiments using a simple experimental design to demonstrate the relationship among mass, force, and distance traveled.

Materials needed:

- Several cotton balls
- Plastic spoon
- Measuring tape
- Masking tape
- Rubber bands

In your science journal, record this experiment. Include your question, materials list, hypothesis, experiment steps, and conclusion.

Experiment Steps

On a flat surface, use the spoon to launch one plain cotton ball. Measure the distance it travels and record it in your science journal. Next, wrap three rubber bands around one cotton ball and launch it. Measure the distance and record. Then, wrap one cotton ball with masking tape and launch it. Measure the distance and record.

Now write your conclusion in your science journal. Which cotton ball traveled the furthest distance? Why? Was your hypothesis correct?