

## LANGUAGE ARTS

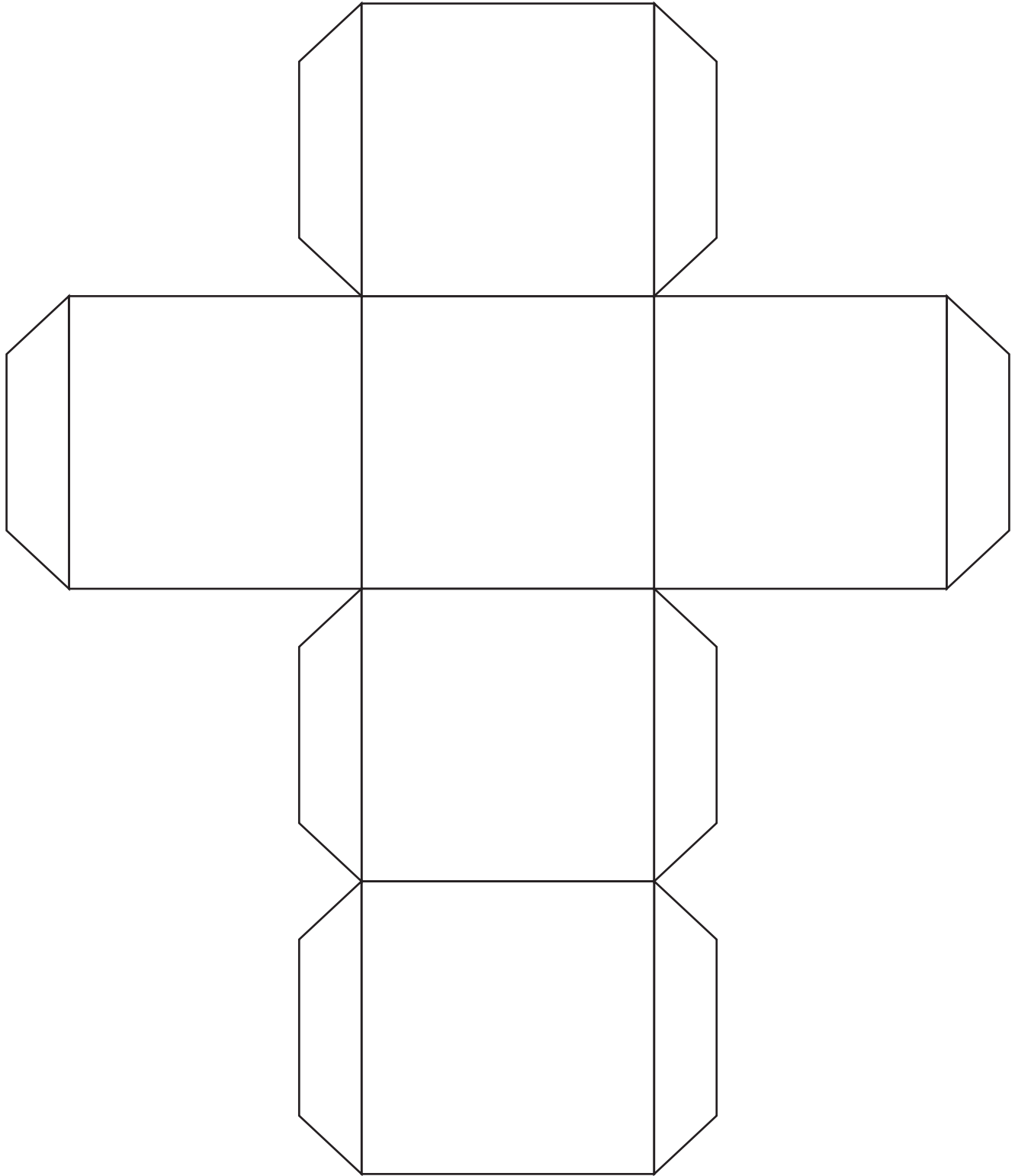
**Story Starter Grab Bag** - Fill a paper bag with items from around the house. Give the child a story starter such as “Once upon a time...” and have the child reach into the bag and pull out an item. Have the child start the story with the story starter and continue the story, using the object as part of the story. Have the child continue to pull items from the bag and incorporate them into their story. To extend the story, create a written version with illustrations.

**Chin Puppets** - Use makeup and other craft items to create chin puppets. Once your puppet(s) are complete, put on a puppet show. Ideas for a puppet show include telling your favorite story, telling jokes, creating a comedy routine, singing favorite songs, creating new lyrics to popular songs, etc. The link below has some easy directions, ideas and pictures to get you started! Here is the link:  
<https://pagingfunmums.com/2013/05/16/chin-puppets/>



**Tossing Around a Story** - Use a beach ball, nerf, or other ball that is soft to make a fun story maker manipulative. Use masking tape to write down words from a specific theme. For example, farm animals, hobbies, sport, etc. Write words for that theme on pieces of masking tape and stick the pieces of tape on the ball. Have a child begin the activity by throwing the ball to another person. The person who catches the ball reads the word under one thumb and uses it to begin a story. After starting the story, the person throws the ball and the next person continues the story with a word under one thumb. This is also a great way to practice sight words, identifying emotions, and do math!

**Make Your Own Story Starter Cubes** - Create a story starter cube from paper. Having your kids make the cube themselves incorporates math, art, and fine motor skill. Draw or write the name of a person, place, or thing on each side of the cube. Roll the cube and begin telling a story. Continue rolling until all sides of the cube have been integrated into the story. *Template on next page.*



### Favorite Book Expansion Ideas

- Use paper plates and craft supplies to create masks for the characters in your favorite storybook. Use the masks to act out the story.
- Change the ending to your favorite storybook and act out the new ending. Use craft supplies and items from around the house to create props for the new ending.
- Create a Madlibs-style story with a picture book. Use sticky-note pieces or small strips of paper to cover up different nouns, verbs, and adjectives in the story. Write on the sticky note or strips of paper which part of speech belongs underneath the paper. Write words in the category for each piece of paper. Read the story using the new words.
- Wordless Books are a great way for kids to use their imagination and creativity! Take their favorite book and ignore the written story and have children make up a new story based on the pictures!
- Ignore the illustrations of children's favorite books. Challenge them to create illustrations to go with the written story.
- Redesign a New Book Cover for their favorite book(s).

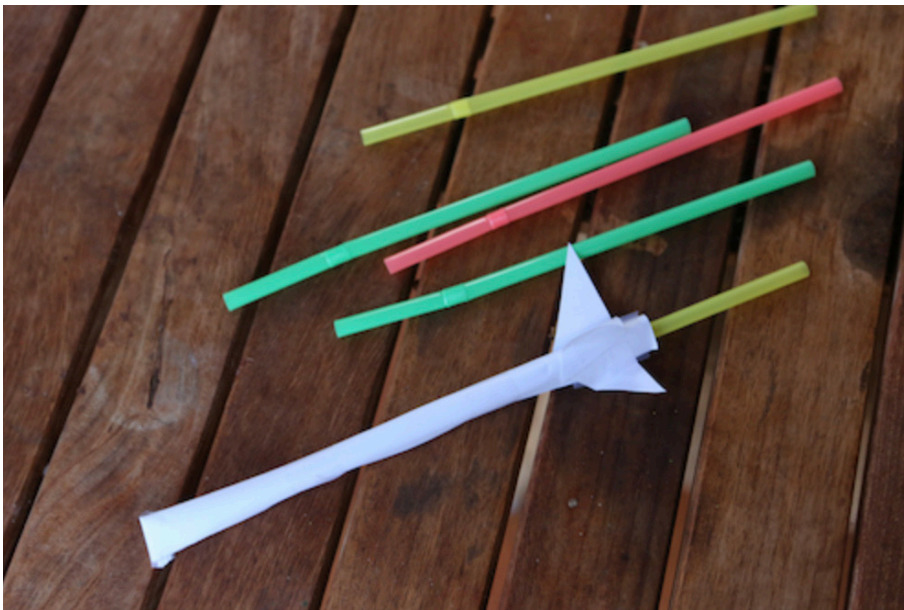
## SCIENCE

**Parachute** - Experiment with air resistance. Gather items such as grocery bags, coffee filters, paper plates, yarn or string, tape, scissors, etc. Use the items to design, create, and test a parachute that will slowly and safely land a small figuring, stuffed animal, or other small object. Add challenges such as landing the item in a basket or on a target, modify the design in an attempt to have the item remain in the air for the longest period of time, test different items to see how much weight the parachute can hold, etc.



Credit: <https://stlmotherhood.com/coffee-filter-parachute-guy/>

**Straw Rockets** - Experiment with air pressure. Use straws, paper and tape to design, create, and test straw rockets. Set up targets such as baskets or sheets of paper and attempt to shoot the rockets at the targets. Make modifications to the design and analyze how the modification changed the ability for the rocket to travel through the air. To incorporate math, add numbers or point values to the targets, measure the distance the rocket travels each time it is launched and average the numbers.

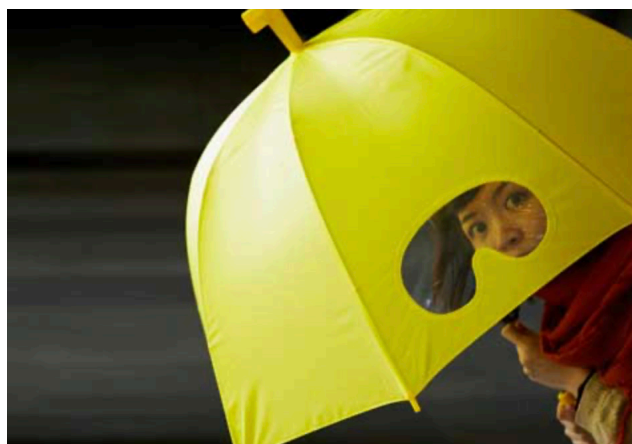


Credit: <https://www.scholastic.com/parents/school-success/learning-toolkit-blog/drinking-straw-rockets-science-activity.html>



Credit: <https://buggyandbuddy.com/straw-rockets-with-free-rocket-template/>

**Umbrella Design** - Practice engineering skills. Use craft items and clean recyclables to design a prototype of a stylish and functional umbrella. Increase the difficulty of the challenge by incorporating one working part to the design.



<https://www.feeldesain.com/goggle-umbrella.html>

**Card Stacking** - Experiment with physics. Use a deck of playing cards to attempt to build a house of cards. Begin by experimenting to determine some different techniques for stacking cards. After learning the basic concept, attempt different challenges. For example, how tall can the cards be stacked? Attempt to design a house of cards that withstands the air movement from a hair dryer or handheld fan. Try to build a house of cards on an uneven surface.



<http://www.designsoak.com/playing-card-stacks/>

**Wall Coasters** - Experiment with engineering skills. Gather items from around the house, masking or painter's tape, and a small, lightweight ball. Use tape to attach items to a wall. Test the coaster to determine whether the ball can move all the way through the coaster without stopping or dislodging from the track. Continue to make modifications until the ball can successfully travel the length of the coaster.



<http://www.usd422.org/vnews/display.v/SEC/KCHS%7CStudent%20Life%3E%3EPhysical%20Science>

## MATH

**Create New Rules to an Existing Game** - Practice number recognition, addition, and subtraction. Choose a favorite board or card game. Create new rules, including a new scoring system. Play the game according to the new rules.

**Sidewalk Stained Glass** - Practice geometry skills. Gather or make sidewalk chalk. Write or draw basic shapes, with flat sides, on small pieces of paper and put the pieces of paper in a bag. Draw one piece of paper at a time from the bag and use sidewalk chalk to draw the shape on the ground. Each shape must connect with or touch another shape in at least one location.



<https://twitter.com/ConsortSchool/status/864331134330523648>

**Bowling for Math** - Practice number recognition, addition, subtraction, and multiplication skills. Set up cups, paper towel rolls, etc. in the pattern of bowling pins. Write numbers, math problems, or equations on the “pins.” Roll a ball and attempt to knock over as many pins as possible. Add up the numbers, the sums of the math problems, or the values of the equations. The total value of the pins knocked over is the score for the bowl.



<http://patentpendingprojects.blogspot.com/2012/08/diy-bowling-pins-project.html>

**Dice Games** - Practice basic math skills such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division by playing a variety of dice games. Invent new dice games that incorporate basic math facts. Name the game, create the game rules, and determine how to win. Write down the directions (assistance may be necessary), explain to others how to play, and then play the game. Play a familiar dice game but alter the rules and add a math component.

Select additional games from the following websites:

<https://www.k5chalkbox.com/math-games-using-dice.html>

<https://the-teacher-next-door.com/my-blog/math/math-games-using-dice>

<https://zenomath.org/toolbox/dice-games/>

<http://rachelktutoring.com/blog/math-games-with-dice/>

<https://www.themanylittlejoys.com/dice-wars-simple-and-fun-math-game-for-kids/>

**Playing Cards** - Practice number recognition, addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division by playing a variety of card games. Use creativity to invent an original card game that incorporates basic math facts. Name the game, determine the rules to play, and explain how to win. Create a written version of the directions (with assistance as necessary), explain how to play, and play the game. Select a favorite card game, alter the rules, and add a math concept. Play the new version of the game.

Select additional games from the following websites:

<https://www.weareteachers.com/math-card-games/>

<https://mathgeekmama.com/best-math-card-games/>

<http://theaverageteacher.com/math-games-for-kids-cards/>

[https://thatafterschoollife.com/fantastic\\_4.html](https://thatafterschoollife.com/fantastic_4.html)

<https://www.positive-parenting-ally.com/fun-math-games-for-kids.html>