

Bob Zone Activity Sheet

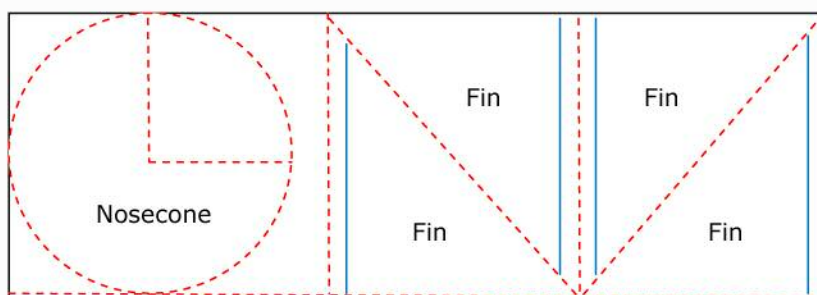
Build Your Own Rocket!

Let's have a go at building your own rocket... all you need are basic craft materials, like paper, tape and scissors, and some fizzing tablets. How high will your rocket go? Will it reach the moon? Print off a copy of this page, find a grown-up to help you... and you're ready for lift off!

Here are the materials you'll need:

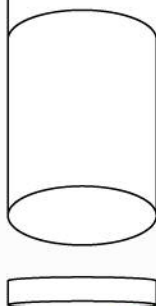
- Some paper (standard A4 is perfect)
 - Some sellotape
 - A pair of scissors
 - A plastic 35mm film canister (this needs to be the kind with a lid that fits inside the rim – if you haven't got any at home, try asking your local photography shop if they've got any spares)
 - A effervescing (fizzing) tablet (the kind you might use if you've got an upset tummy)
 - Some paper towels
 - Water
- ...and don't forget, it's always important to have some eye protection (like glasses or safety goggles)

How to make your rocket:



First Steps

- Cut along the red dotted lines
- Fold along the blue lines
- Make sure the lid of the canister faces down
- Sellotape the canister to the edge of the paper
- Roll the paper around the canister to make the rocket body



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Next steps

- Cut a quarter out of the circle as shown, then roll it up and tape it to the top of the rocket body to form a nosecone.
- Tape the fins to the rocket body by taping along their narrow folded edges.

You're ready for Blast Off!

- Remember to put on some eye protection.
- Turn the rocket upside down and fill the canister about a third full of water.
- Quickly drop half of your fizzing tablet into the canister and put the lid back on.
- Place your rocket upright on the ground, stand back and watch your rocket blast off!

Try different shapes

The plan we've provided here is just a starting point. You can experiment with different sizes and shapes, for instance, you could make your rocket long and thin, or short and fat, with or without fins. Remember, though, that the less your rocket weighs, the higher it will go.

How does it work?

When you put the fizzy tablet into water, lots of little bubbles of gas escape. These bubbles are lighter than water so they go up rather than down and when they get to the surface of the water, they break open and push on the sides of the canister. This forces the top of the canister to pop off and all the water and gas rush out, pushing the canister (and rocket) upwards.