

Learn about: How propulsion causes objects to move

Propulsion or Thrust

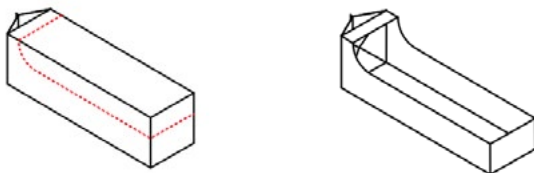
We are going to look at propulsion or thrust with a small **Balloon Boat** experiment.

You will need:

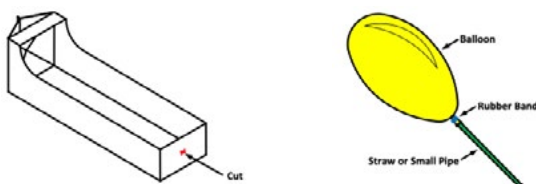
- Scissors
- Milk or Juice Carton (Cardboard or Plastic)
- Rubber Band
- Balloon
- Small pipe or Drinking straw
- Bathtub / Bucket of water

What to do:

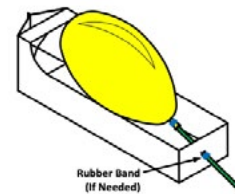
Cut the Carton to make a Boat. Carefully cut a milk or juice carton as shown using scissors:



Fit the Straw in the balloon using a rubber band. Carefully insert the straw into the opening of the balloon, and use a rubber band to hold it in place. Make sure it's tight enough to hold the straw but not too tight that the straw is pinched and air cannot go through it. You can test it by trying to inflate the balloon a small amount through the straw.



Push the straw through the slit in the boat. Carefully push the straw through the slit in the end of the carton. Make sure it's secure, if it's loose, use a rubber band on the outside of the carton to hold the straw in place.



Blow the balloon up. Hold the balloon firmly by the tail and tube. Blow into the balloon through the tube, then quickly cover the opening of the tube with your finger. Keep holding the tail end of the balloon.

Set the boat into a body of water point and let go. You can use anything, from a sink to a bathtub to a swimming pool. Keep your finger over the tube, point the boat in the direction you want to go (the straw should point in the opposite direction) and let go!

