

Balloon Car

Student worksheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

Directions: Before you start building your car, complete the design step below.

1. Design

In the space below, draw sketches of some ideas for your balloon car before you start building it. Label the materials you will use. You might come back to this page to modify your sketch or make a new one as you test and redesign your car.



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Name: _____

Directions: Follow these steps to test your balloon car. After testing, modify your car to try to improve it, and re-test. Record all test results in the data table.

2. Test your car

- a. Important: for sanitary reasons, designate one person from your group to inflate the balloon. If that person gets tired, attach a new straw to your balloon.
- b. Inflate the balloon by blowing through the straw.
- c. Quickly press your finger over the tip of the straw.
- d. Place the car on the floor at the “0” mark on the tape measure.
- e. Release your finger and watch the car until it comes to a stop.
- f. Record how far the car traveled in the data table.
- g. Note any problems with your car. For example, do the wheels wobble? Does it drift off to one side?

Test #	Distance
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

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Name: _____

Directions: After everyone in your class has finished testing, answer the questions below.

3. Reflect

a. How well did your design work compared to other groups?

b. What parts of your design worked well?

c. What parts of your design could you improve?