

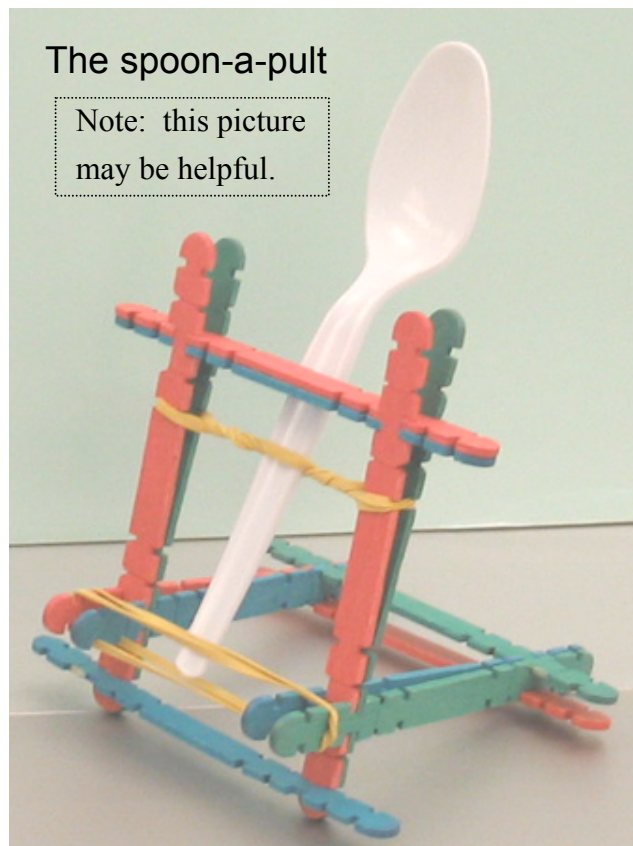
# Spoon Catapult

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Age: Fun for all, but needs adult fingers for assembly    Time: 15 – 30 min.

## Stuff you need:

- 13 skill sticks (available from craft stores or Walmart)  
NOTE: Dyed sticks in photos were used for illustration purposes only.  
Plain, non-dyed sticks work better due to less warpage.
- 2 rubber bands
- 1 plastic spoon
- 1 cotton ball or marshmallow



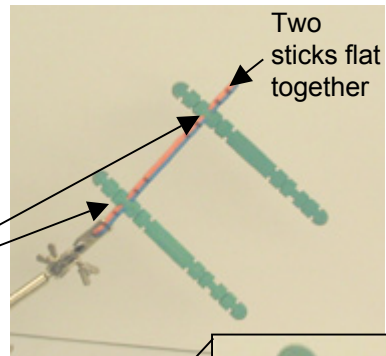
## Step-by-step:

- Stack two sticks flat together, notches lined up.
- **Using the wide notches** (3<sup>rd</sup> from the ends), snap in two other sticks on one side of the stacked sticks, perpendicular to the stack.

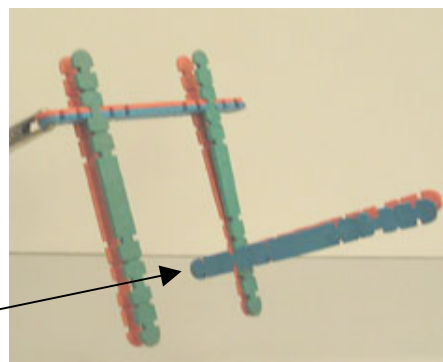
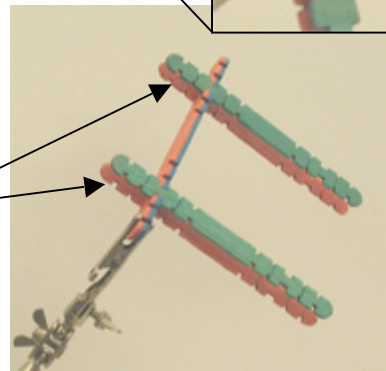
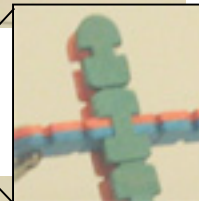
- Some of the sticks fit together better than others. Try different sticks until you get a good fit.

- Do the same with two more sticks on the other side of the stack.
  - This “H” shape is the front end of the catapult.

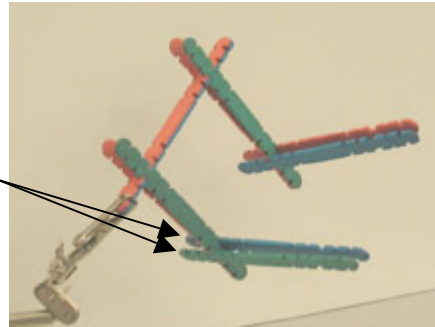
- Pinch together the bottom of one “leg” of the H (make sure the notches are lined up).
- Snap in two sticks on either side of the leg, again using the wide notches.



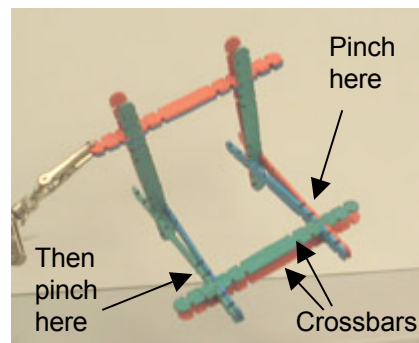
Close-up of notches



- Do the same on the other leg of the H with two more sticks.

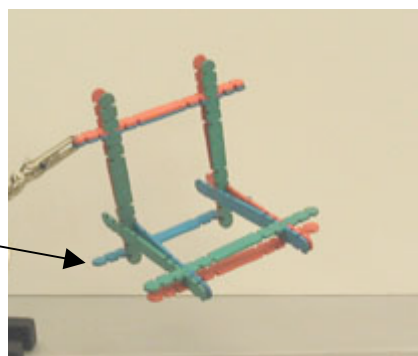


- Next, pinch together the free ends on one side and attach two “crossbar” sticks on the top and bottom, (again, use the wide notches and make sure notches are lined up).

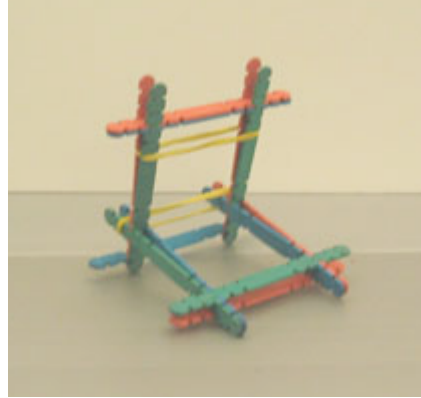


- Pinch together the other side, and attach the other end of the crossbar sticks. You’ve now completed a second “H” which is the back end of the catapult

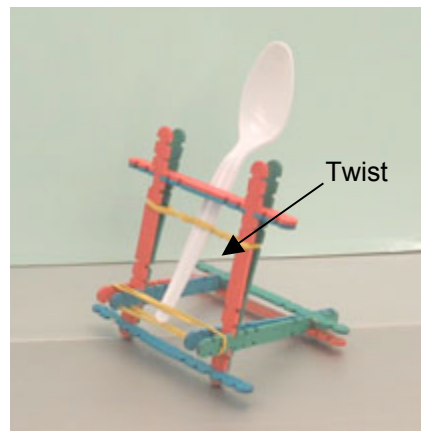
- Finish off the frame of the catapult by attaching the last stick to the bottom notches of the front H (see big picture at beginning of instructions).



- Attach the rubber bands as shown.
  - You can try different rubber bands or doubling the bands up. What happens to the power of your catapult?



- Twist together the front & back of the top rubber band several times and insert the spoon in between.
  - Adjust the # of twists on the rubber band. Use a different spoon. How does it change your catapult's power?



- Load your cotton ball onto the spoon and launch!
  - Hold down the base of the catapult when loading and launching.

