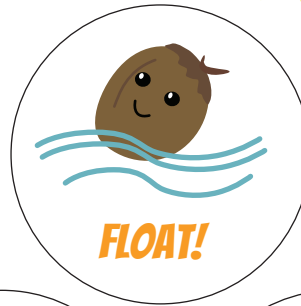


SUPER SEEDS!

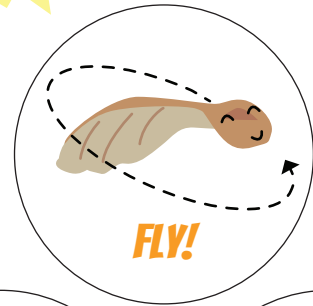
THE
AMAZING FEATS
OF SEEDS!



WHEN PLANTS ARE
TOO CLOSE TOGETHER, THEY
COMPETE FOR SUNLIGHT, WATER,
AND NUTRIENTS. HOW DO PLANTS
SPREAD THEIR SEEDS?



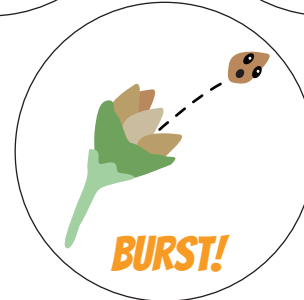
FLOAT!



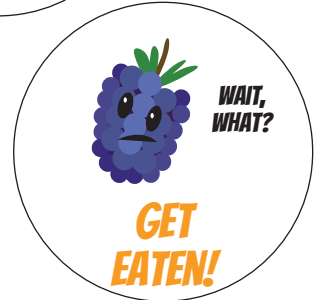
FLY!



STICK!



BURST!



GET
EATEN!

WHAT TO DO:

PRETEND YOU ARE A PLANT AND NEED TO
SPREAD YOUR SEEDS. USE POM-POMS TO
DESIGN SEEDS THAT CAN MEET THE CHALLENGE.

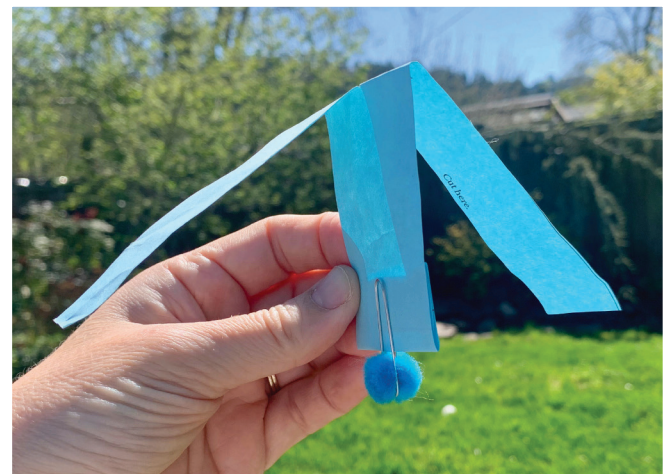
WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ 5 small pom-poms ("seeds") | ☐ Paper |
| ☐ Helicopter template | ☐ Scissors |
| ☐ Paperclip | ☐ Toilet paper tube |
| ☐ Velcro | ☐ Optional: other |
| ☐ Balloon | craft or recyclable |
| ☐ Ruler | materials |

CHALLENGE 1: FLY FAR

DESIGN A SEED THAT FLIES THROUGH THE AIR,
LANDING AT LEAST ONE FOOT AWAY.

1. Use the template to make a paper helicopter.
2. Push a pom-pom into the end of a paperclip and attach it to the bottom of the helicopter.
3. Hold the "seed" as high as you can and drop it. What happens? Where did it land? Would it go farther if you were outside on a windy day?



This "seed" spins like a helicopter propeller. What if it was a different shape? Try changing the design to make it travel farther.

CHALLENGE 2: STICK TO IT

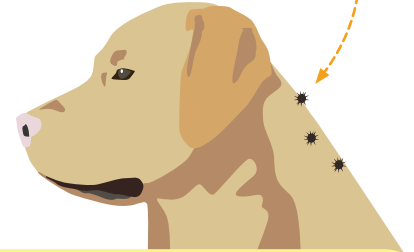
DESIGN A SEED THAT STICKS TO A PERSON'S CLOTHING AND TRAVELS AT LEAST FOUR FEET.

1. Peel a Velcro piece off the paper and stick it to a pom-pom.
2. Try attaching this Velcro "seed" to a person's clothing or hair and observe.
3. How long did it stay on? How far did it travel?



DID YOU KNOW

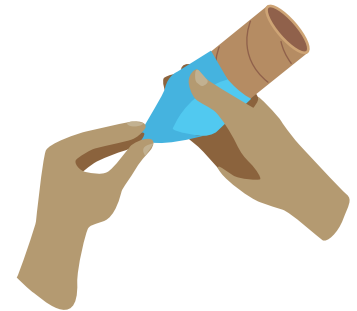
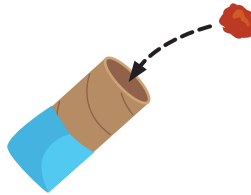
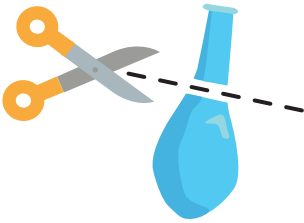
that the inventor of Velcro was inspired by **burdock seeds** that stuck to his coat and to his dog?



Try using other materials or designs that could help the "seed" stick and travel.

CHALLENGE 3: BURST OUT

DESIGN A SEED THAT CAN BURST OUT AND TRAVEL MORE THAN THREE FEET.



1. Cut off the open end of a balloon.
2. Stretch the balloon over the end of a toilet paper tube and insert a pom-pom "seed."
3. Pull back the balloon and let go. What happens? How far did the "seed" travel?

Try using "seeds" of different sizes, shapes, or weights. Can you make lots of them burst at once? Try using many small pieces of crumpled paper. Be sure to clean up!



CHALLENGE 4: STAY AFLOAT

DESIGN A SEED THAT FLOATS IN WATER FOR AT LEAST THREE MINUTES.

1. Place a pom-pom in a cup of water. What happens?
2. Can you change a pom-pom "seed" so it will float? Experiment by adding different materials to the pom-pom and see what works.

