

## Balloon Powered Cars

Time: 30-40 minutes

This activity is part of the **SCIENTIST** activity session.

### You will need

- Cardboard
- Drinking straws
- Wooden shish-kebab skewers
- 4 plastic bottle caps
- Balloon
- Duct tape or masking tape
- Nail
- Hammer
- Knife
- Scissors

### Run the activity

1. Cut out a length of cardboard to be the body of your car
2. Mount and trim, to the width of the cardboard, 2 straws to the base of the cardboard, at either end
3. Make 4 holes, with the hammer and nail, in the bottle tops for the kebab skewers to fit through, make sure they are not too tight
4. Push the skewers through the straws and then the holes in the bottle top wheels
5. Check that the spin like wheels should do
6. Next, stretch out a large balloon by blowing it up and then letting the air out of it a few times
7. Insert a straw into the mouth of the balloon and seal the opening by wrapping some tape around it several times
8. To mount the balloon/straw on the car simply tape it to the top of the cardboard with the straw overhanging the back of the cardboard
9. Find a hard surface, like a long table or floor
10. Blow up the balloon through the straws at the mouth of the bottle
11. Pinch the base of the balloon to prevent the air from escaping too soon
12. Set the car down, let go of the balloon, and watch it go!

### This activity counts towards

- Scientist Activity Badge

### Safety

These activities should be supervised by parent/carers at all times, and are not subject to The Scout Association's Policy, Organisation and Rules. These activities are completely voluntary, and each parent/carer should determine if they are suitable for their children.