

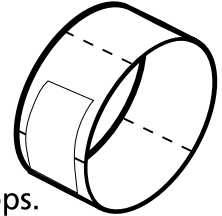


Slider's Glider

Slider needs help with his invention! What changes can you make to his glider to make it fly farther?

Make Slider's Glider

- 1 Make 1 Glider Strip 3 segments long and another Glider Strip 6 segments long.
- 2 Tape the ends of each strip together to make 2 loops.
- 3 Tape the small loop to one end of a straw. Tape the large loop to the other end. Make sure that both loops are on top of the straw.



Materials

- 6 to 8 Glider Strips
- Straight plastic straw
- Scissors
- Tape
- Tape measure
- Pencil
- Paper

Test Slider's Glider

- 4 Go to your Test Flight Area and stand behind the starting line. Hold the glider at the middle of the straw, with the small loop in front. Throw it gently.
- 5 How far did Slider's Glider glide? Measure from your starting point to the spot where the glider landed. Record the distance on your "Test Results" handout.

Refine & Optimize Slider's Glider

- 6 Take a look at the different parts of Slider's Glider. What parts do you think you should change to make it glide farther?
- 7 Make a new glider to test your ideas. Measure and record how far it flies.
- 8 Repeat steps 6 and 7, refining and optimizing – making changes to improve your invention. Do this until you've made your glider the best that it can be!

How Am I Inventing?

Inventors are always looking for ways to make something work better to solve a problem. So they design a test and make changes to an invention to see if they can improve how it works. When you make changes to Slider's Glider to try to get it to glide farther, you're doing the same thing. Inventors call this process *refining and optimizing*. You can call it fun!

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