

# Ask Me About Flight!

Today, an instructor from the Discovery Museum in Acton visited my classroom and led a hands-on program about flight.

Let me tell you how thrust, gravity, lift and drag affect flying objects. Ask me how I lifted a ping-pong ball with my breath and floated the same ping-pong ball in midair with the help of a hair dryer.

I made paper fly using different folding techniques. Let me show you one of the paper planes I designed and help me experiment with the "flutter fish" activity below



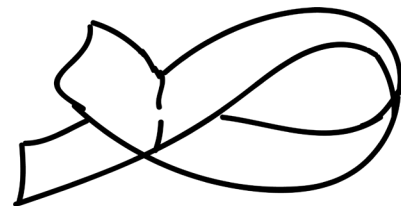
## Flutter Fish

### What you need:

- Paper
- Scissors
- Ruler

### What you do:

1. Cut a strip of paper 1" wide by 6" long.
2. Measure 1" from the end of the strip and make a 1/2" cut.
3. Measure 1" from the opposite end and make a second 1/2" cut on the opposite side.
4. Twist the paper and slide the two cuts together to make a fish.
5. Hold it up in the air and drop it.



What happens? Try using different widths and lengths of paper. Can you make it spin quickly? Can you make it glide slowly?