

To investigate the effects of air resistance  
My Parachute investigation



- You have been asked to design and test parachutes
- You will test which design falls in the slowest time
- You will change one variable(thing) each time
- You will measure in seconds how long it takes the parachutes to fall – use the stopwatch (clock) on your iPad/phone to time them.

1. I am going to change (either the material or the size or the shape – choose 1):

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2. I will measure how long it takes the parachutes to fall \_\_\_\_\_

3. Why is it important to keep the other variables the same – THINK FAIR TEST?

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4. I think that the parachute that will fall the slowest will be the

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5. I think this parachute will have the most air resistance because

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My results:

	Description of parachute (e.g., size of parachute, material used, shape)	Variable to measure (time taken to hit the ground measured in seconds)
Parachute 1		
Parachute 2		
Parachute 3		

The slowest falling parachute was \_\_\_\_\_

My prediction was \_\_\_\_\_ (correct or incorrect)

To make your parachute, you will need:

String or wool

Object to put on the parachute – small toy figure, ball of blu tack, pebble, pipe cleaner figure, etc

Sticky tape/Sellotape

Material – can be one material if you are changing the size OR shape OR you will need 3 different materials if you are changing the type of material.

PLUS a stopwatch to time (measure) the drop



CHOOSE 1 OPTION ONLY

1. Change the material used – e.g., paper, kitchen paper, tin foil, plastic bag, greaseproof paper, etc – they must be the same size.
2. Choose one material e.g., paper but only change the size – one large, one medium and one small parachute.
3. Choose one material e.g., tin foil and only change the shape – one circle, one triangle and one square