

Rube Goldberg Machine

Materials

Materials can be anything that you have around you. Some examples are listed below:

- Bottles-
- Boxes-
- Toys-
- Cans-
- Pencils-
- Chairs-
- Tables-
- Cups-
- Tape-
- Marbles-

Students will build a machine that is designed to perform a simple task in an intentionally complicated way.

**6th - 8th
Grade**

A Rube Goldberg machine is one that is designed to complete a simple task in a complex way. There are no set instructions on how to build one because that part is up to YOU! The machine will work based on the chain reactions you create along the way. Below are some steps to get started:

Decide on a Goal

The first step is to decide what your machine will do. Some examples include turning on a light, opening a door, popping a balloon or changing the channel on a remote.

Plan it Out

Look at the objects around you and brainstorm how they could be used for your machine. It might be a good idea to sketch a drawing of how your machine will be laid out.

Build Your Machine

This part takes patience. Gather your materials and begin building your machine step-by-step. Test each step before moving on to the next. Remember that it is okay to fail. Figure out why something didn't work and try again!

Links to Examples:

[The Blue Marble](#)

[The Trash Machine](#)

