

WORKSHOP EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Built by The Home Depot Kids Workshops

September 2024: Field Goal Game

Ages 5-12

CONNECT.

Think back on a thrilling game you've seen—it could be a local tournament or a sporting event on TV—something that fills you with excitement. Now, imagine your favorite player in a crucial moment of that game. The score is tied, and the team is only one point away from victory. The player has the ball in their possession, so they pull their foot back and kick with everything they've got. The crowd holds its breath as the ball makes its way toward the goal post...

INVESTIGATE.

Let's see how it may feel to score the winning goal! Follow the directions below to create a catapult that can fling a football through the goalpost.

You'll need:

- Your Field Goal Game
 - Eight 6-inch paint sticks
 - Six rubber bands
 - One plastic or wooden spoon
1. Grab six of the paint sticks and four rubber bands.
 2. Place the paint sticks evenly on top of each other, so they look like one thick paint stick.
 3. Use the rubber bands to secure the paint sticks together. Put two rubber bands on each end of the paint sticks and twist/loop them until they are secure. Then, put this to the side.
 4. Take the remaining two paint sticks and place them on top of each other. Don't stack them perfectly this time. Instead, let about a half-inch of the bottom paint stick peek out from under the top paint stick.
 5. Twist one of the last two rubber bands around the two paint sticks, about an inch away from the end. (Note: Put the rubber band around the end where you **can't** see the bottom paint stick.) Make sure you twist the rubber band as tight as it can go!
 6. Separate the two paint sticks that are now banded together by gently pulling apart the paint sticks from the end farthest from the rubber band.
 7. Once you have the two paint sticks spread apart, pick up the six paint sticks that you put aside. Push them into the "mouth" of the two paint sticks as far as they can go. When you press down on the top stick, it should now have a little bounce!
 8. Use your last rubber band to secure the spoon to the top paint stick. It may be easiest to twist the rubber band around the

paint stick first and then push the spoon in between the rubber band and the paint stick... but experiment with what you think works best!

9. Now, let's see how it works! Place your football onto the spoon. Then, hold the catapult onto the table with one hand. With your other hand, press the spoon down as far as it can go... and release it! Your football should go flying up into the air!

INNOVATE.

Experiment with your football, the catapult, and your Field Goal Game to see how you can best make sure that you score the winning point!

Some factors to consider include:

- How far should the catapult be from the Field Goal Game?
- How far down should you push the spoon?
- How should you position the football on the spoon?
- Should any of the rubber bands be tightened or loosened?

Once you're confident that you've figured it out, prepare to launch your football one last time. But before you do, close your eyes and bring yourself back to the State Championship.

Then press the spoon down and release it. Hold your breath, along with the imaginary crowd in the stadium, as your football goes soaring through the air toward the goalpost... and then SCORES!

Share a picture of your football soaring in midair using #kidsworkshopexplore.



Now that you are ready to play your new game, make sure to get the football at the right angle and give it the right amount of air to reach the goal. Did you know that **HVAC Technicians** work to maintain the air quality in our homes, heating and cooling our communities depending on the season?

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