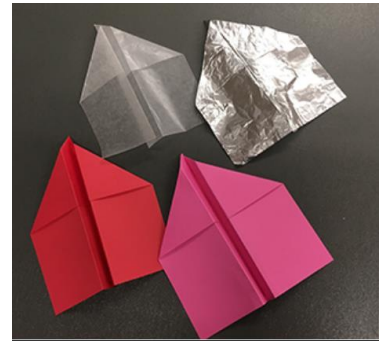




What is the best material to build a paper airplane from?

Materials

- thick paper
- thin paper
- aluminum foil
- cardboard
- measuring tape



Original Source: Michigan State University

Instructions

Demonstrate to everyone how to fold a basic paper airplane and hand out the four (4) materials that will be used to fold each airplane.

1. Fold four (4) paper airplanes using the four different materials:
 - thick paper
 - thin paper
 - aluminum foil
 - cardboard

Use the basic design demonstrated or your own unique design. It is important that all four (4) airplanes are folded using the same design.

2. Once all the planes have been made, note down the material and how heavy each is. (see table below)
3. Launch each airplane and measure the distance each type of material travelled. Repeat this three times.

Material	Heavy/Light	Distance travelled		
		Attempt 1	Attempt 2	Attempt 3
Thick paper				
Thin paper				
Cardboard				
Aluminium				



What is the best material to build a paper airplane from?

Once everyone has finished logging their results, discuss:

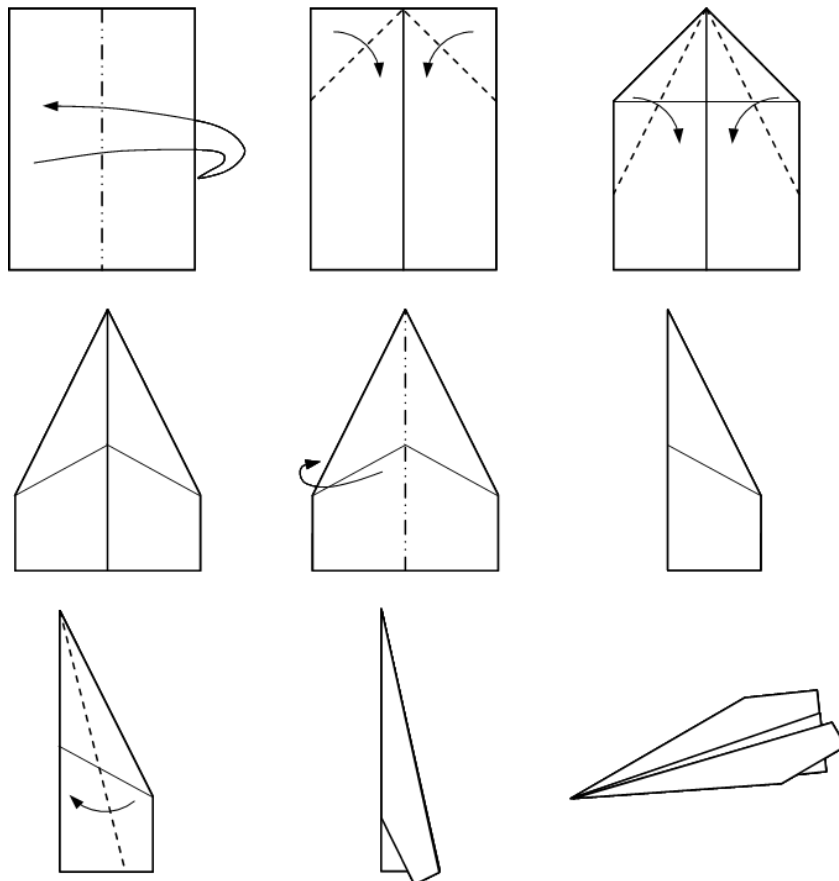
- which plane was able to fly the furthest
- was this because of the material the plane was made from?
- were thinner materials better than thicker?
- were lighter or heavier materials better?



Bonus activity

Ask everyone bring out their furthest flying airplane.
Are they made from the same materials?

Line up and launch the airplanes to see which design and material can fly the furthest.



You may want to use this paper plane design! Or another one you find in a book or on the internet