

Activity

Modelling Energy Transfer and Transformation

1. Build a catapult with the materials provided by your teacher.
2. Experiment with the design of your catapult to determine changes that affect its performance.
3. Record all the ways that energy is transformed and transferred as your catapult operates.
4. Using your observations, try to determine what variables affected energy transformation

in the catapult. To answer this question, consider how changes to your design affected a certain function. For instance, if you used an elastic band in your design, did the length or thickness of the band affect the distance the catapult was able to throw an object? What type of energy might have been affected by this variable?

1. List the materials you used to build your catapult.

2. Describe or sketch the final design of your catapult.

DATE:

NAME:

CLASS:

TOPIC 3.1	Activity: Modelling Energy Transfer and Transformation	BLM 3.1-5

3. Record all the ways that energy is transformed and transferred as your catapult operates.

4. Record any variables that affected energy transformation in your catapult. Consider how changes to your design affected its function. For instance, if you used an elastic band in your design, did the length or thickness of the band affect the distance the catapult was able to throw an object? What type(s) of energy might have been affected by this variable?