PAPER PLANE CROQUET

Duration: 30 minutes-2 hours
Institution: Tellus Spark
Skill level/Age Level: All Ages
Group size: 10-30 participants

INTRODUCTION

Participants build a paper airplane that they will use to complete different challenges in the ‘croquet’ course that has been set up using assorted items available.

Learn several ways to build a paper plane. Test your dexterity and physical ability in the build of paper planes and in the obstacle course portion of the program. Embrace failure as an opportunity to learn, redesign and reiterate.

MATERIALS AND TOOLS

**Essential Materials:**

- Paper
- Assorted large materials to make a croquet course (garbage bins, hula hoops, boxes, etc.)
- Large open space

**Optional Materials:**

- Paper clips
- Scissors
- Masking tape
- Tutorial board for different types of paper airplanes

SET UP

- Set up tables with paper where participants can build their paper airplanes. You may wish to have examples of airplanes or a step-by-step tutorial board
- Use materials that you have available to you to set up a croquet course fo the paper planes. For example: garbage bin that you have to throw your plane into or a hula hoop that your plane must land in. Ensure the challenges are in an area that is clear of pedestrians and other challenges. At each challenge have a tapeline to indicate the starting point and where to stand for the challenge.
HOW TO OR STEP-BY-STEP

1. Encourage the participants to help you set up a variety of challenges that will complete the obstacle course.
2. Work together to build paper planes. Try different techniques and styles.
3. Guide participants that have completed their paper plane to the start of the croquet course.
4. Once the first challenge is achieved move to the next.

*If the challenges are too easy or you have younger and older participants, task them with additional challenges like throwing behind your back or at a farther distance.*

FACILITATION TIPS

*Main Role of the Facilitator:*

- Teach participants how to make paper planes.
- Demonstrate throwing techniques for different challenges
- Encourage participants and cheer them on.

*Facilitation Techniques:*

- Have participants work at the same table in order to encourage sharing ideas and knowledge.
- For participants that don’t know how to build paper planes, help them by demonstrating or encouraging participants to teach each other.
- Younger participants may not be interested in making paper planes but may want to try throwing a paper plane. Have pre-made planes ready and cheer on the participants as they try the course.
PROMPTS AND QUESTIONS

• What makes a paper plane go fast?
• What are changes you can make?
• How many different ways can you throw a paper plane?

MATERIALS SOURCES

Use recycled paper in order to save on cost, however printer paper tends to be the best for making paper planes. The croquet course can be developed out of any materials available, it just takes creativity and imagination.

• Paper (Multi-purpose paper), 1 box (5000 sheets) for approximately $35.00
• Paper clips, 1 pack (100) for $1.00

REAL WORLD CONNECTIONS

Building, testing and altering a design is an essential part of all project development

SAFETY AND TROUBLESHOOTING

• Ensure that the croquet course challenges are in clearly defined areas that are clear from pedestrian traffic to avoid eye injuries from paper planes.
• Ensure that they croquet course is steady and will not fall down on visitors if weight is applied to them.
• Paper cuts may occur. Have band aids on hand to apply to cuts
• Scissors must be used with careful supervision and instruction