

Helicopter seeds

Sycamore tree seeds are sometimes called helicopters. They have 'wings' so that they spin when they fall to the ground.

Make a paper seed helicopter.

1. Cut out this shape. Cut along the solid lines.
2. Fold along the two vertical dotted lines and put a paperclip on the bottom. This is the stem of your helicopter.
3. Fold along the two horizontal dotted lines and bend in opposite directions to make the wings of your helicopter.
4. Drop your helicopter and watch it spin.

Challenge

Can you make your helicopter reach the ground more slowly. Investigate changing the size, shape or angle of the wings or the weight of the seed by adding more paperclips.

Who can make 'the best' paper helicopter?

