

TAPS Plan for Focused Assessment of Science



SPA			
Topic:	Year 3		Title:
Forces	Age 7-8		Balloon Rockets
Working Scientifically	_		Concept Context
Review: Using results to draw simple		\sim	Compare how things move on
conclusions, suggest improvements and			different surfaces.
raise further questions.	°-	_	
Assessment Focus			
Can children explain what their results show?			
Can children suggest improvements?			
Activity Today we are aeronautic engineers.			
Set up a balloon rocket with the children (inflated balloon taped to straw, string through the			
straw, let go of balloon to shoot along string). Ask them to discuss what they think will happen if			
different tracks are used e.g. wool, garden string, plastic coated wire, etc.			
Discuss predictions applying knowledge of inclion and previous runs.			
Children could record results as a group then draw conclusions individually			
evolution what they have found and suggesting improvements to the method			
explaining what they have found a	nu suggesting i	nproven	P6
Adapting the activity Support: Pre-prepared chart for recording measurements. Extension: Extra column to note explanations for results. Other ideas: Could the balloon carry a load or a message?			
Questions to Support Discussion			
What do you think will happen when we let go of the balloon?			
 Do you think it will be different How far do you think it will go 	on this track? W/	1110005	vvily?
 Which balloon went furthest? 		iy:	Sticky tape cut
Why did that balloon go further	r/not as far?		Scraw
Which track do you think was	the best?		7 NO
 How accurate/fair do you thinl 	<pre>< our results are?</pre>		/ L)-Balloon
What could we do to be more	accurate/fair?		track
Assessment Indicators			
Not yet met: Describes the results for different balloon tracks e.g. <i>it went far, it did terrible</i>			
Meeting: Pupils draw conclusions by comparing results e.g. the silver floss was faster because it was			
small and that means the balloon can flow nicely. Pupils can suggest improvements for investigation set			
up e.g. need a longer track, we didn't use the same balloon.			

Possible ways of going further: Conclusions may draw on scientific ideas e.g. the washing line was slippery so it caused less friction. Evaluations note degree of trust in results e.g. it's not fair because we used different balloons, the balloon could have gone further if the track was longer so we need to do it again.

Pupil box 6 - identify next steps. See TAPS pyramid for more examples.