

PAPER HELICOPTERS

How can we make a helicopter out of paper?



YOU WILL NEED

- Helicopter template
- Scissors
- Paper clips
- Timer (optional)

HOW TO DO IT

- 1) Cut out the paper helicopter template and fold along the dotted lines.
- 2) Fold A and B in opposite directions to make the blades.
- 3) Fold C and D over each other so they overlap and secure with a paperclip.
- 4) Stand on a chair and drop your helicopter. Watch how it spins.

WHAT IS HAPPENING?

Gravity is the force pulling the paper helicopter to the ground. As the helicopter drops, the air pushes up against the blades, causing them to rotate. In doing so they create lift which helps to keep the helicopter in the air.

The direction the blades are bent in will affect whether it spins clockwise or anti-clockwise. Adding more weight (paperclips) will make the helicopter fall faster.

INVESTIGATE



Add more paperclips to see how the weight changes the spin.



Find out more about how helicopters work.

