Watch this instructional video on how to make a parachute before continuing.

***NOTE*: All parachutes need to be constructed using the same materials.**

Materials:

- Tissue paper or plastic bags
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Tape
- 1-hole punch
- String, yarn, twine or fishing line
- Weight of approximately 4.5-5.5 grams - Small non-breakable action figure, Lego mini-figure, 25 mm binder clip or metal washers
- Location from which to drop a parachute from the same height

Prepare the Canopy and Suspension Lines

1. Cut the desired size and shape from a piece of tissue paper or plastic bag.
2. Fold the canopy in half and then in half again to create two folds that cross at the center of the canopy.
3. Unfold the canopy and use tape to reinforce the edge of the canopy at each of the 4 locations along the folds. Place one half of a piece of tape at the fold on the top side of the canopy and then fold the other half of the piece of tape under and secure it to the underside of the canopy.
4. Use the 1-hole punch to punch a hole at each of the 4 reinforced locations around the canopy at each end of the two folds.
5. Cut 4 lengths of string, yarn, or twine to the desired suspension line length.

Assembling the Parachute

6. Using a knot, attach one end of each suspension line to each of the 4 holes in the tissue paper.
7. Fold the canopy in four so the 4 holes lay on top of each other making sure the lines do not get criss-crossed.
8. Tie the unattached ends of the four suspension lines in a single knot.
9. Attach the payload weight in a secure manner.

Modify the above instructions based on the size and shape of the parachute you are making.

Activity based on Science Buddies Make a Parachute video. Content is allowed without permission by linking to the Science Buddies website. https://www.sciencebuddies.org/about/link-to-us

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