

THE SK TAKES FLIGHT!

The Bird Gliders take off!



THE SK AT SIBELIUS PARK!

We took our first gliders to Sibelius Park on May 3rd. Each glider was thrown twice, and measured each time.

LUCKY FOR US, ONE OF THE SK PARENTS WAS A FLIGHT EXPERT!



Cole's dad taught us the 4 Rules of Flight

#1 Thrust

"That's when we throw the glider forward."

"It's what pushes the glider ahead of you."

#2 Drag

"That's what keeps the glider from going forward."

"Like wind can push it back."

#3 Lift

"When you take off, the air can be pushing the wings up."

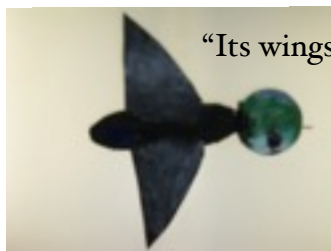
#4 Weight

"That's easy!"

"How much it weighs, because that's going to pull you down."

"Cause of gravity."

WHY DID SOME GLIDERS GO SO FAR?



"Its wings helped it fly."



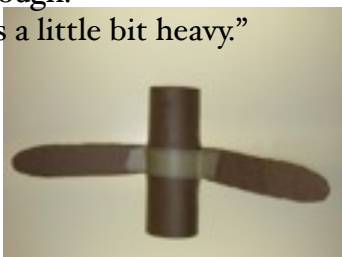
"It's small."

"It's light."

"The wind caught its feathers and blew it."

"They fly better with wings up."
"The hole in the tube lets the air go through."

"It's a little bit heavy."



"Maybe its long body cut through the wind."



TESTING THE GLIDERS AND MEASURING

The children always checked what direction the wind was coming from first before launching their gliders. Eli's traveled 265 cm.



We spent time in April on measurement so the kids were already experts at measuring distance. Alex's glider went 376 cm.



Kismet's cardboard and paper glider did a loop on it's first flight, traveling just 142 cm. After evening the wings, it traveled 390 cm on its second flight!

Frank's glider went the shortest distance when the wind was against it, and the second longest when the wind blew behind it - 535 cm!



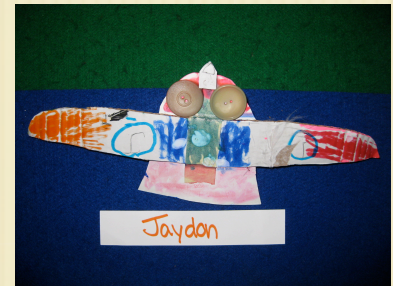
PREPARING FOR TEST #2

Improved and New!

The SKs took ideas from a group discussion and from Rion to think about how they could improve their gliders before the next test flight.

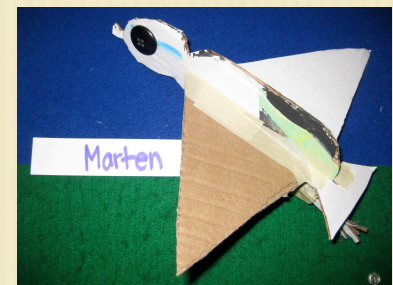
Re-modeling an original

Jaydan decided to add a larger head, with button eyes and a beak for extra weight up front.



Re-modeled with some small additions

Inspired by Jaydan, Marten added button eyes. He also added wider wings, and a triangular tail for balance.



Starting from scratch

Lindsay didn't want to lose her cardinal but had many ideas for improvement. She began a new glider with cardboard so the wings would stay stiff and catch the air.



What kind of bird would you like to be?
The SKs had lots of ideas!

