

Balloon Rocket Demonstration

(Partially adapted from [Balloon Rockets - Science World](#))

Materials:

- Balloon
- Bunsen Burner/camping stove
- Beaker
- Tongs
- Hot gloves
- Water
- Plastic Bottle
- 1 straw
- Tape
- 9ft of string (thin enough to thread through the straw)

Procedure:

1. Tie or tape one end of string to desk, post, or wall.
2. Thread straw onto string.
3. Tie or tape other end of string to desk, post, or wall, ensuring line is taut.
4. Fill beaker halfway with water and fit balloon over mouth of beaker
5. Heat beaker over Bunsen burner/camping stove
6. Allow water to convert to steam and fill balloon.
7. Trapping steam in the balloon, tape balloon to straw.
8. Standing to the side, release balloon and watch straw travel along string.

Safety:

- Wear PPE (heat-resistant gloves, glasses, long sleeves or lab coat, etc.) when conducting experiment.
- Do not leave Bunsen burner/camping stove unattended when lit.
- Ensure no one is standing near the balloon's opening when released.
- Keep appropriate fire extinguishing materials in reach.

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park assumes no risk or liability in any accident or injury resulting from this demonstration. Please take all necessary precautions for the safety of all.