

# INCLINED PLANE BALL LAUNCHER

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An inclined plane is also called a “ramp”. An inclined plane can make a ball roll faster and longer, than just pushing it across the floor. Make an inclined plane using a cardboard tube and have fun launching balls. Can you make your ball go longer and faster using in inclined plane? Discover how changing the slope of the cardboard tube effects the action of a ball.

## **YOU WILL NEED:**

- A long cardboard tube 2” in diameter (Larger wrapping paper tubes work well.)
- A two 2” diameter balls. (Balls have to fit inside the tube. See illustration 1)
- Scissors

## **DIRECTIONS:**

1. Cut the cardboard tube in half to make two inclined plane launchers. (See illustration 2)
2. Prop one end of the cardboard tubes against a book.
3. Launch your ball(s) from the highest part of the tube(s).
4. Add two more books. Repeat the launch. Does the ball go further or faster?
5. Add two more books. Repeat the launch. Does the ball go further or faster?
6. Keep adding books and watch how the angle of the inclined plane affects the ball(s).
7. It is fun to use both inclined planes and two balls to race with a friend.

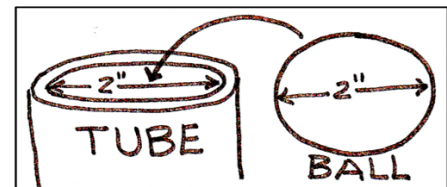


Illustration #1



Illustration #2

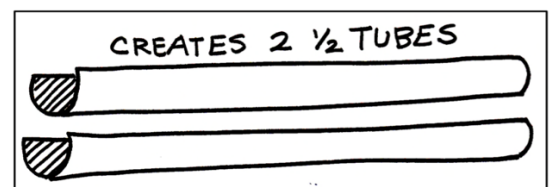


Illustration #3