

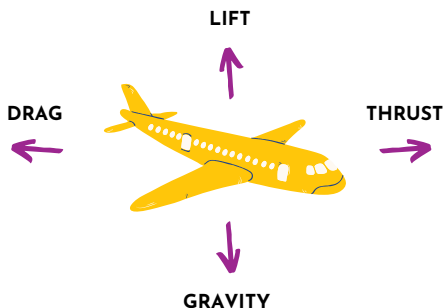


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How Do Airplanes Stay in the Air?

There are four forces of flight:
THRUST, DRAG, LIFT, AND WEIGHT.



THRUST is the force that moves the airplane forward.

LIFT is the force that works against the **WEIGHT** of the airplane, keeping it in the air.

DRAG is the force that works against **LIFT** to slow the airplane down.

WEIGHT is the force caused by gravity, which brings the airplane back to the ground.

Airplanes need **THRUST** to keep moving forward. That is why airplanes have engines to create the force that pushes them forward.

Airplanes need to maintain **LIFT** to keep them in the air. That is why airplanes have wings. Wings generate the most **LIFT**.



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Flight Experiment

INSTRUCTIONS:

Step 1

Tape each strip of cardstock paper to the ends of your straw.

Step 2

Toss your paper flyer in the air! See how it glides through the air.

Step 3

Reflect on how you can improve the glide of your flier. Try trimming the paper strips and/or the straw with scissors, or even adjusting the placement of your paper strips on the straw.



SUPPLIES:

- 1x10 inch strip of cardstock
- 1x5 inch strip of cardstock
- Plastic straw
- Tape
- Scissors