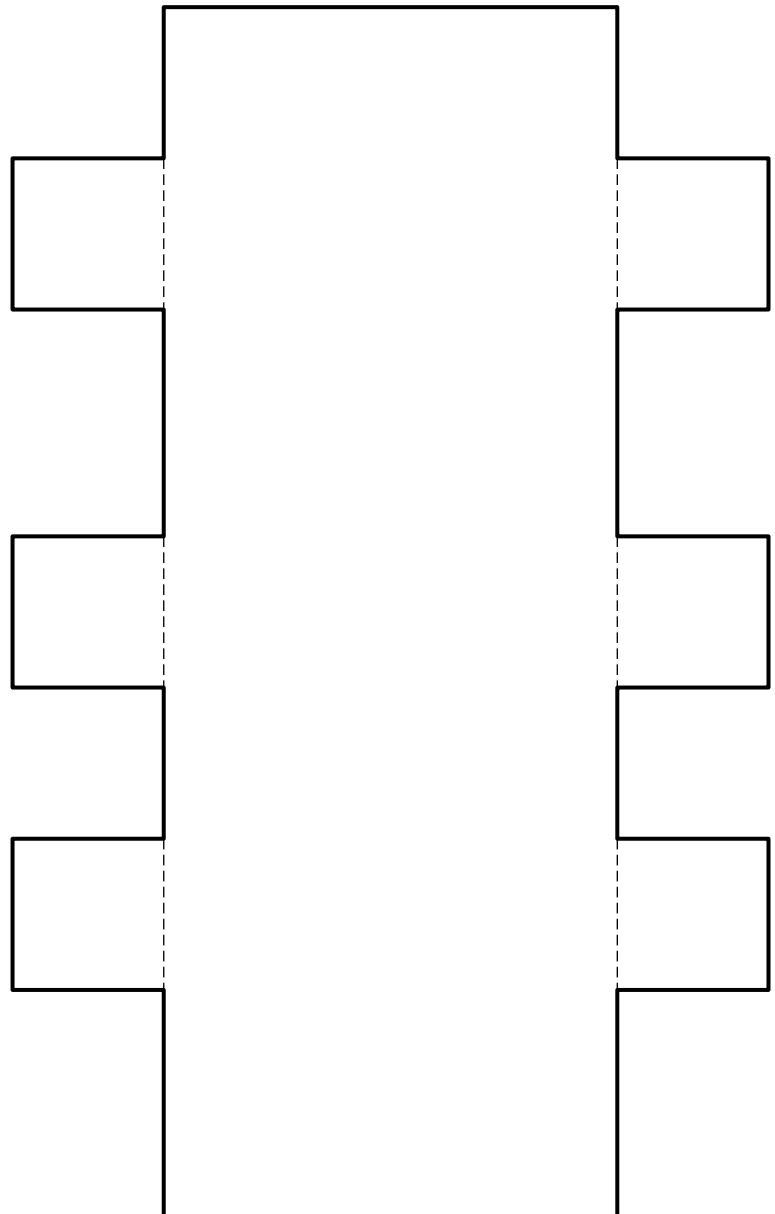
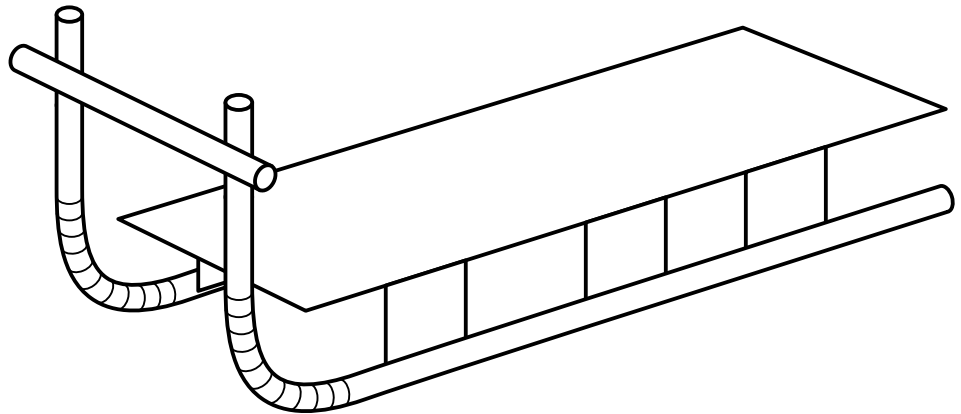


# Make a sledge



# Make a sledge

## Age range

- Years 3/4 (SP4/5).
- Years 5/6 (SP6/7).

## Resources

Copies of the worksheet, scissors, sticky paper, straws with flexible sections. A piece of smooth wood, or tray to use as a ramp in step 6.

## Using the worksheet

Although Vikings are associated with sea journeys, they did make journeys along rivers (see activity **2B**) and also travelled over land. They walked or rode horses and used packhorses to carry their goods. The Vikings lived in lands that had a great deal of snow in the winter. During the winter, sledges were used to travel over land and carry goods. A sledge had a lightweight frame and runners which had a smooth surface. In this activity the students make a lightweight frame and attach materials with smooth surfaces to make runners and gain some insight into sledge making.

## Younger students

The students can work through the sheet on their own or in pairs. They may need help in devising a fair test. They could use an object with a smooth, shiny surface, such as a tray, a large book (e.g. an atlas) or a short plank. The sledge should be placed at one end of the surface and the end raised until the sledge starts to slide. Some sledges may have pieces of sticky paper attached to the underside of the runner which slow down the sledge. Students with slow sledges may like to review their construction technique and try again.

## Outcomes

The students can:

- Use simple materials safely.
- Perform a fair test and draw a conclusion.
- Gain some insight into sledge making.

## Older students

The students can work on their own in this activity. They may already have used a slope to test for friction in their science course and can use the test here to compare their sledges. The students could design stronger sledges using cardboard and test them by adding loads of wooden blocks.

## Outcomes

The students can:

- Use simple materials safely.
- Perform a fair test and draw a conclusion.
- Design and test their own sledges.
- Gain some insight into sledge making.