

# PARENT NOTES: Elastic Potential!

## UTILITY BELT & CONFETTI CANNON



Today we made a confetti cannon which launches using the science of converting potential (stored) energy to kinetic (moving) energy. If your child has already covered the superpowers of flight, space, time and throwing, today's science content will build on previous knowledge of potential and kinetic energy from other superpowers, but placed in a new context. We also built a superhero utility belt to hang our confetti cannons from!

### ASK YOUR CHILD

**What did you build today?**

(A confetti cannon, and a utility belt)

**How does your confetti cannon launch?**

(By pulling back the balloon, which creates potential energy. When you let go of the balloon, this turns into kinetic energy which launches the confetti. The balloon snaps back into shape because it is an elastic material)

**Have you seen this elastic behaviour in items other than a balloon?**

(Elastic band, hair tie, rubber glove)

**What sort of things do you think a superhero might want to celebrate with confetti?**