

# PARENT NOTES: TERMINAL VELOCITY!

# PARACHUTE



Today we learned about how spaceships return to earth safely using a parachute then we made our own parachute! We learned about air resistance, shape, and speed as well as how to engineer something to solve a problem.



## ASK YOUR CHILD

**What did you make today?**

(A parachute)

**How does a parachute work?**

(When a parachute opens, the large surface area traps air and creates air resistance, otherwise known as “drag” which slows down the speed that it falls).

**Did you make any changes to your parachute design, and why?**

**Did you time how long it took for your parachute to fall, what happens when you put a weight in it?**

**How do you think your parachute would work if you replaced the plastic with paper or a tissue?**

(Would likely fall faster as paper is heavier and tissue is porous so air can flow through)