



2

Line up the edge of the other handle to the edge of a table. Tape the handle down. Secure the clip end of the clothespin to the table with another piece of tape.



3

Put a few marshmallows on the spoon. Squeeze down on the clothespin handle.



4

Let go of the handle and watch the marshmallows fly.

For a catapult you can take with you, tape the clothespin to a block of wood. Make sure the wood is at least 2 inches (5 cm) thick.

### Why it works:

Catapults work by using **energy** to launch an object. When you pushed down on the clothespin, energy was stored in the clothespin's spring. When you let go, that energy quickly uncoiled the spring, snapping the clothespin closed. Since the spoon is attached to the handle, it moved too, flinging the marshmallows across the room.

**energy**—the ability to move things or do work