

How to make a balloon hovercraft

What you will need:

- 1 CD
- 2 Balloons
- Drink bottle lid
- Glue



Step 1

To start with take your CD and the top of a bottle. We used water bottle caps, the sports style.



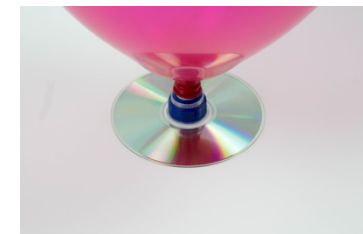
Step 2

Ask a parent to help with this part Glue the cap over the hole in the CD. You need to use a strong glue, or a hot glue gun.



Step 3

That is the basic hovercraft made, yes it is that simple!



Step 4

Blow up your balloon and then making sure the bottle top is pushed down place the balloon over the cap.



Step 5

Put your hovercraft on a smooth floor or a work surface, release the valve and gently push it around.

Now for the science bit!

A hovercraft works by forcing air out beneath it, creating a cushion of air to float on. Hovercrafts usually have a "skirt" that surrounds the base to contain the air; in this project the CD is light enough that it doesn't need a large cushion, so no skirt is necessary. The balloon acts as a pressurised gas chamber. When you open the cap, the balloon forces air out through the cap, creating a thin cushion of air beneath the CD.