Motor Away

Kids love to see how things work and to create experiments. This activity gives them the chance to do both oh AND it lets them make and fly paper airplanes, build a boat and sail it (in the sink or tub) and make a car that moves under its own power.

First, make and fly 3 different styles of paper airplane. Find choices here: https://www.foldnfly.com/#/1-1-1-1-1-1-2 After you make the planes, make a guess at which plane will travel the farthest and what about your plane makes you think it will be the farthest. Then fly your planes and check to see if you were right!

Next, make a paper airplane catapult. Since you already have paper airplanes this is easy. Just put a small hole in the spot that you hold your paper airplane and loop an elastic through it. Before you test your planes-make another prediction to see which will fly farthest. Put the elastic around the thumb of one hand and then using the other hand pull the plane back and let go. Remember, never point your plane at a person. Compare if your planes went as far as you expected.

Finally, using recycled materials like toilet paper rolls (you know you have them because you stocked up on TP), egg cartons, straws for masts and maybe newspaper or magazines for sails. Then fill up the sink, the tub or a bucket and set sail! You can use a straw the blow the boat across the water. See which materials last the longest, see if you can race each other. Which boats move better? Why?

Overall, have fun and play together!

