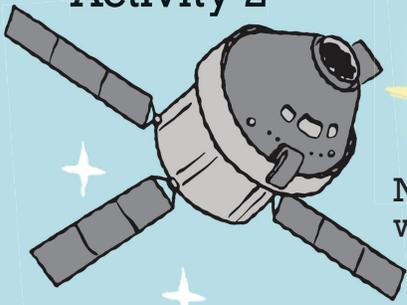


## Activity 2



# ON TO ORION!

NASA is building a new spacecraft called Orion. It will have a capsule where the astronauts sit during their journey. When they get back, parachutes will help their capsule land safely on Earth.

Imagine that the egg (or object) your grown-up gives you is an astronaut testing the Orion capsule. It's your mission to help Snoopy make a parachute that will bring the astronaut back to Earth — without cracking! Ready to try?

Use the materials your grown-up gives you and follow the steps in the engineering design process to create a parachute that will prevent your astronaut-egg from breaking when dropped from a height of 6 feet. Begin by asking questions. Next, imagine what you can create. Make your plan. Write about your plan and draw what you will create here:

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A large, empty rounded rectangle with a black border, intended for drawing a parachute design.

Now, build it! Engineer and test your design, then answer the questions below:

1. Did your design work on the first try? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, how did you improve it? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. How else could you improve your design? What materials would you use? \_\_\_\_\_

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How would you feel about traveling through deep space on the Orion? On the back of this sheet, write a paragraph about what you think it would be like to have such an experience.

It's been more than 50 years since Apollo 10 took the final step toward landing astronauts on the Moon. Today, NASA is preparing to travel even farther — to Mars! Start your own adventure to Mars by visiting <https://mars.nasa.gov/participate/funzone> to learn more about NASA's plans!

