



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 teacher 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 teacher gives your group 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. Talk to your teammates and make your plan. Write about your plan and draw what you will create here:



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? _____

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

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 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!