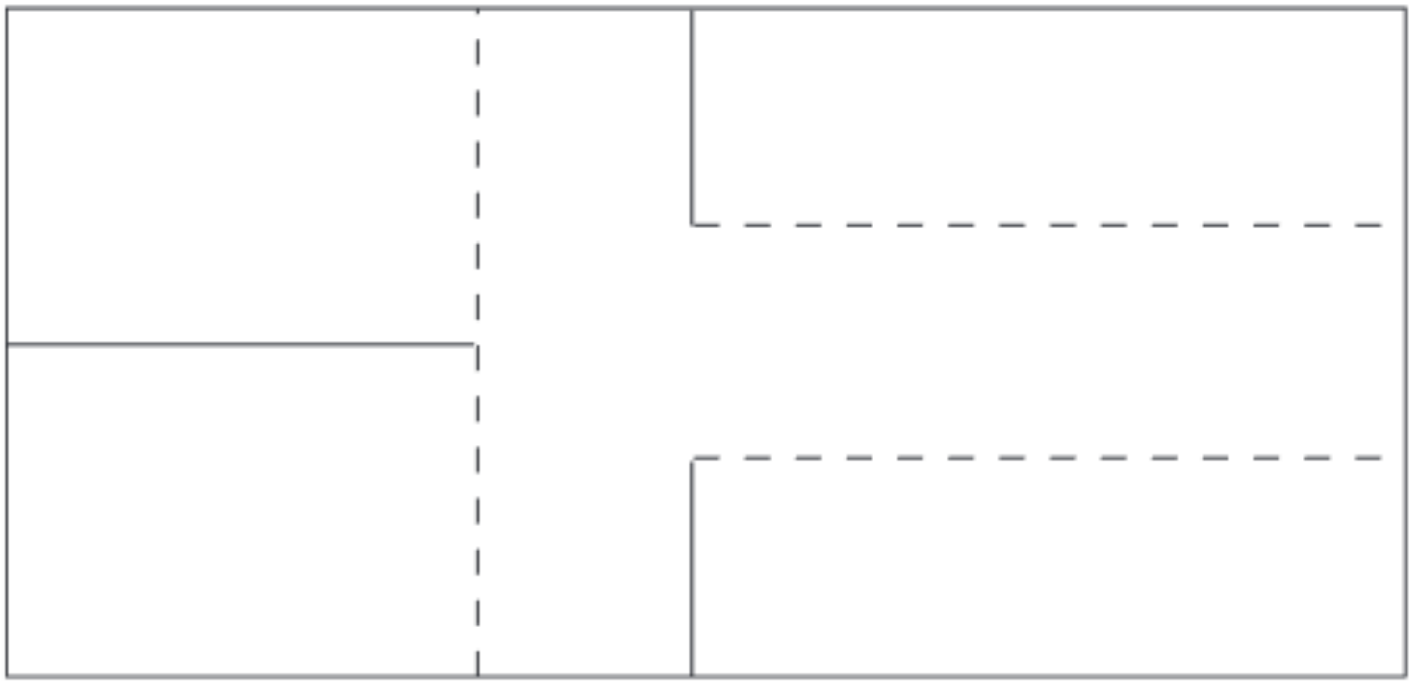
Paper Helicopter Investigation

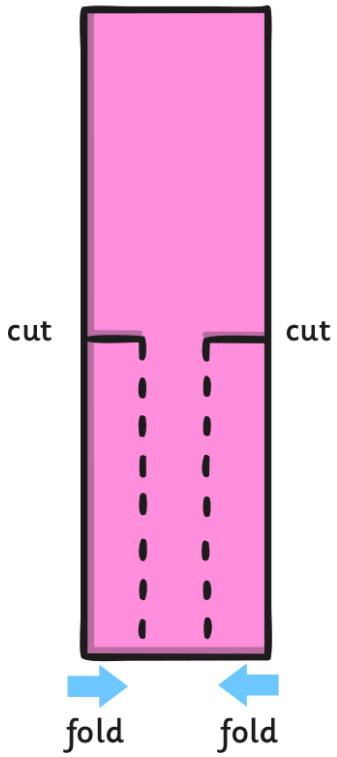
Make a paper helicopter and investigate the effects of air resistance and gravity.

A helicopter hovers in the air as its propellers rotate. Use the template and follow the instructions to create a paper helicopter that spins as it slowly falls to the ground.

Time how long your paper helicopter takes to fall to the ground. Can you make a new paper helicopter that falls more slowly? Think about the forces of gravity and air resistance, and how you can use them to make the helicopter fall slower.

Draw a picture of your new helicopter below and explain how you made it fall slower.

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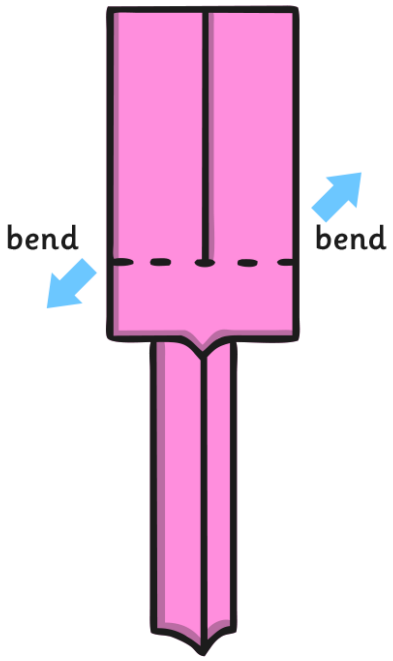
bend
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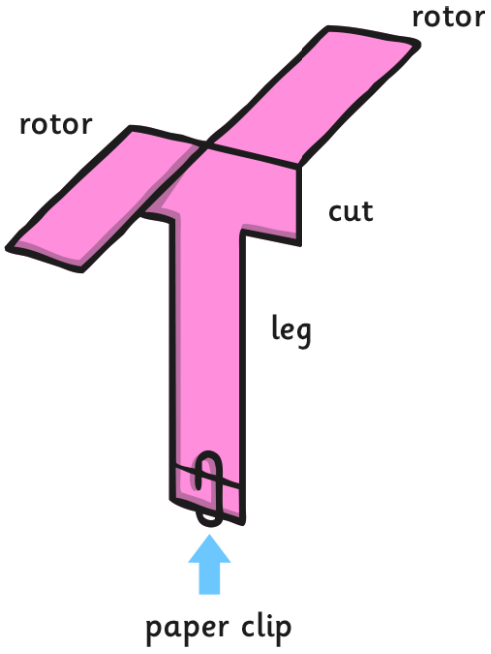
rotor
rotor
cut
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paper clip