How to Build a Rocket Racer

1. Lay out your pattern on the Styrofoam tray. You will need a racer body and wheels. Use a pencil point to score the Styrofoam. Snap out your pieces and smooth them. Make sure your wheels are round! Use sandpaper to round the wheels OR press them on a hard surface and roll them.

2. Punch a small hole in the center of each wheel with the pencil. Push the axle (stirrer) straw through the hole of one wheel so that it extends 1 cm on the other side. Pinch a piece of masking tape around the end of the straw and smooth it on to the wheel. Do the same for the second axle. Do not add wheels to the other ends yet!

3. Cut two large straws to the size you want. Tape them parallel to each other on the bottom of the racer body at opposite ends. Slide a wheel and axel through one of the straws and mount a second wheel on the other end of the axle.

4. Slide the second wheel and axle through the remaining straw and mount the remaining wheel at its opposite end.

5. Blow up the balloon and then let the air out. Next, slip the straw into the balloon as shown. Use masking tape to seal the balloon nozzle to the straw. Squeeze the tape tightly to seal all holes. Test the seal by blowing up the balloon again through the straw.

6. Mount the balloon and straw to the racer with masking tape as shown. Be sure the end of the straw (rocket nozzle) extends off the end of the racer body.