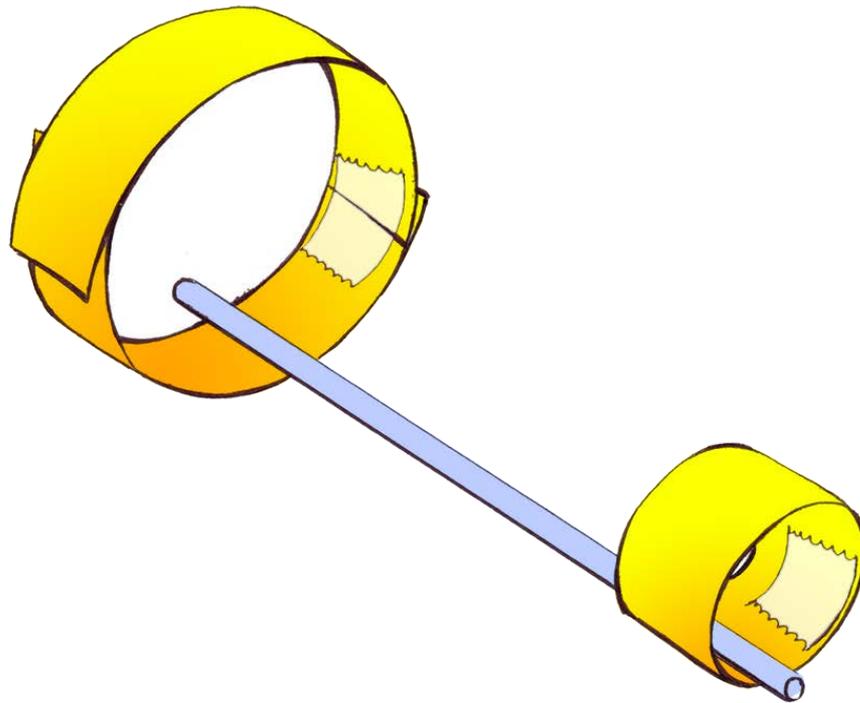


The Straw Glider



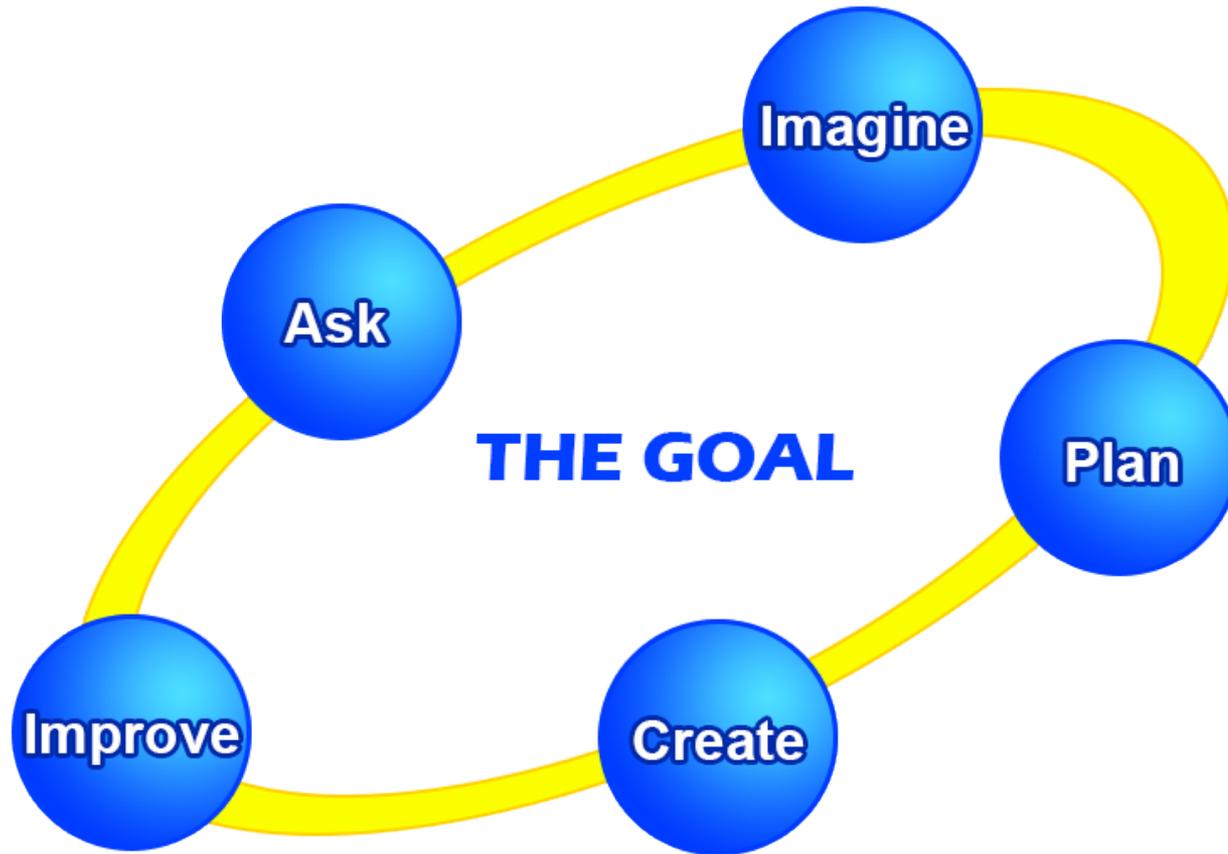
The Straw Glider

A straw glider is made with a drinking straw and two unequal strips of paper. Each strip forms a circle – one larger and one smaller. The circles are then attached to the drinking straw with tape.

Students should test fly their straw gliders in a designated fly zone and measure the distance flown.

Let's look at the Engineering Design Process.

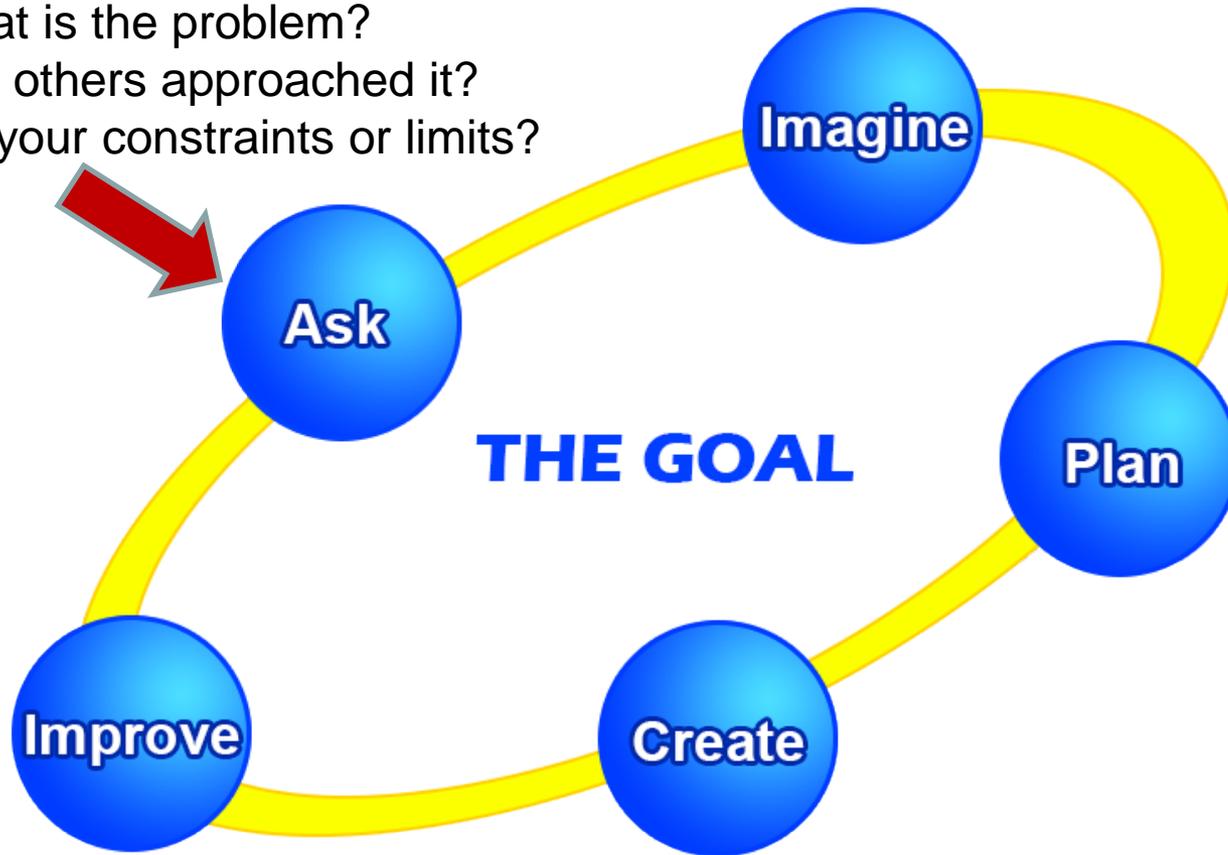
The Straw Glider



Engineering Design Process courtesy of the Museum of Science, Boston

The Straw Glider

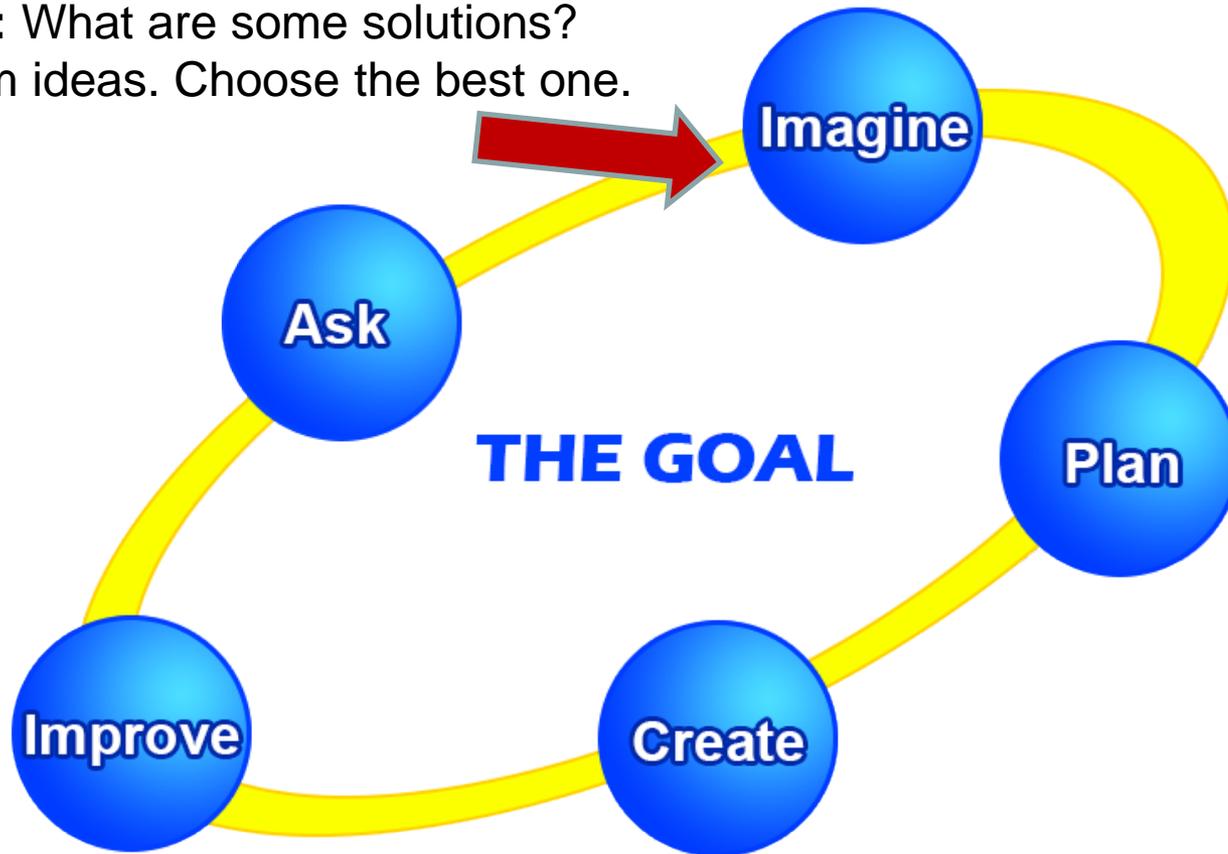
ASK: What is the problem?
How have others approached it?
What are your constraints or limits?



Engineering Design Process courtesy of the Museum of Science, Boston

The Straw Glider

IMAGINE: What are some solutions?
Brainstorm ideas. Choose the best one.



Engineering Design Process courtesy of the Museum of Science, Boston

The Straw Glider

PLAN: Draw a diagram. Make list of materials you will need.



Engineering Design Process courtesy of the Museum of Science, Boston

The Straw Glider

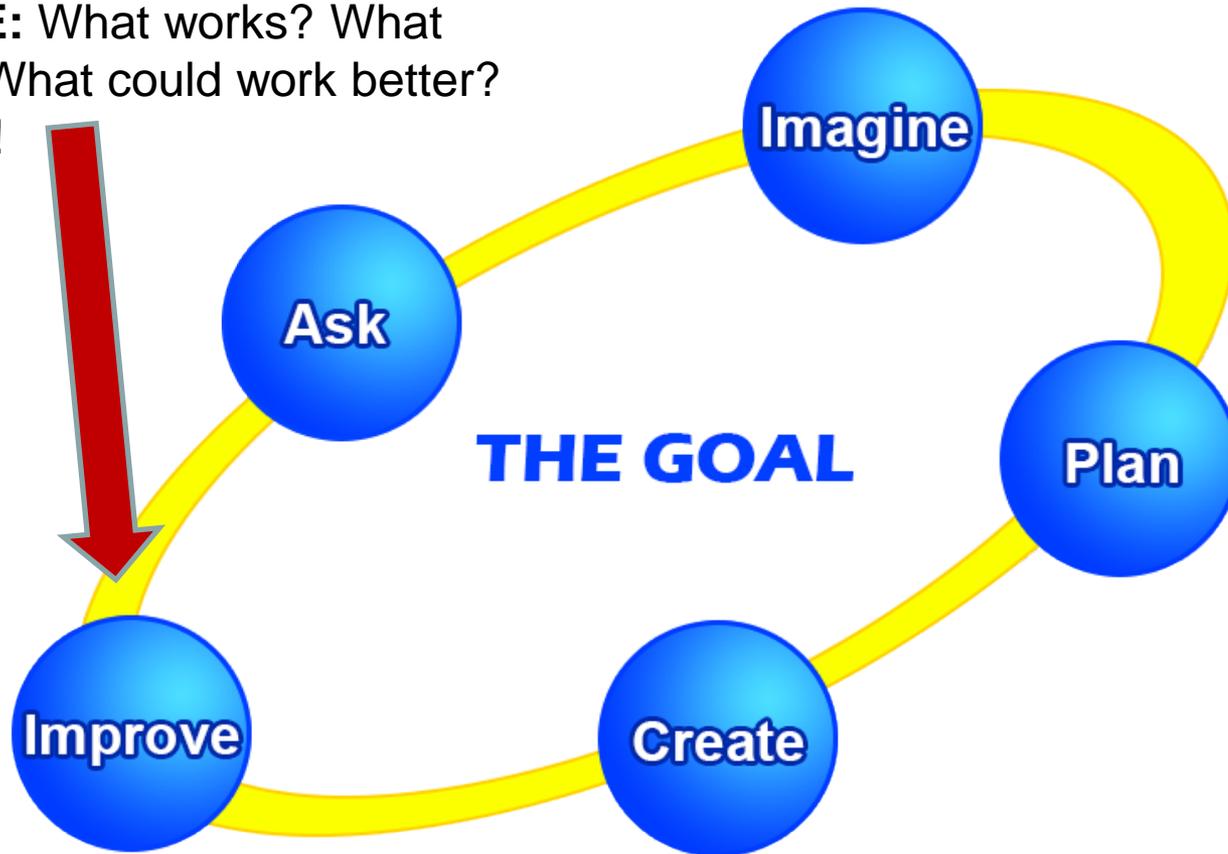
CREATE: Follow your plan and create something. Test it out!



Engineering Design Process courtesy of the Museum of Science, Boston

The Straw Glider

IMPROVE: What works? What doesn't? What could work better?
Test it out!



Engineering Design Process courtesy of the Museum of Science, Boston

The Straw Glider

Identify the independent variable:

Identify the dependent variable:

What are the controlled variables?

There should be three trials of a design before making any modifications.

Ready, set, start engineering!

More Resources

**Additional Resources
are available online at**

www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/education/teacher/index.asp