

Paper Airplanes

Subject: Social Studies,
Economics

Grade Level: 9-12

Concept: Economic
Concepts

Method: Problem-Based
Learning

OVERVIEW

Paper Airplanes is designed to engage students in the process of rapid prototyping in small groups while dealing with the challenges of scarcity, risk, and a high potential for failure. Students are given the seemingly simple task of flying paper airplanes from one line to another, with the potential for a 100% profit if they are successful. As the game progresses however, the rates of success and failure will drive them to change their strategy by creating new opportunities to profit by innovating their approach and redefining for themselves what success looks like. Their goal is to make profit by creating a quality paper aircraft that is able to fly the distance. Along with the plane's capability, teams are challenged to streamline their productivity, manage their costs, maintain quality, and seek profitability.

[Read Full Lesson](#)

Connection to Entrepreneurship: This activity engages students in the process of rapid prototyping, while facing challenges like scarcity and risk.