









# INVENT THE SUMMER

## Week 8: Rube Goldberg

### 1 Complete the Challenge.

Build an amazing Rube Goldberg Machine: an unnecessarily complex creation designed to perform a very simple task.

<b>The Rules</b>	
<b>You CAN:</b>	<b>You CAN'T:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Have as many steps to the machine as you'd like. The more complicated the better!</li> <li>✓ Incorporate a variety of engineering marvels into your machine</li> <li>✓ Your machine can complete any simple task – giving a pet a treat, turning off a light, or ringing a bell.</li> <li>✓ Test each part of the machine independently to troubleshoot.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✗ You can't just use a premade domino set and call it done.</li> <li>✗ You can't interfere with your machine after you start it .</li> <li>✗ Don't give up when you machine doesn't work the first time. This will take lots of trial and error!</li> </ul>
<p>Once you have every part of your machine working, show us how it works. Be sure to film all the action from start to finish!</p>	
<p> <b>Our tips to avoid angry adults</b> </p>	
<b>DON'T</b>	<b>DO:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Don't use fragile objects to build your machine.</li> <li> Don't have your Rube Goldberg machine complete a dangerous task.</li> <li> Don't throw, kick, or destroy your machine when it quits in the middle for the 700th time.</li> </ul>	<p> <b>CLEAN UP after you make a GIGANTIC mess!</b></p>

## **2 Create a video of your solution.**

Try to keep your video under 90-seconds long and include the following:

- How does your solution work?
- What materials did you use?
- Did you have to overcome any problems?

You can see tips to creating great entry videos [here](#).

Your video will be visible to anyone with an internet connection, so it's important to protect your privacy and stay safe. See our [website](#) for more information.

## **3 Enter the contest by 9:00pm ET on August 17, 2025.**

Ask a parent to upload your video to our website using our [online entry form](#).

All contest entries will receive **1** point for our big end-of-the-summer prize drawing! You can earn bonus points for:

- Completing our weekly online STEM course - 1 point
- Entering an Epic Fail - 1 point
- Getting a friend to participate in their first ever Invent the Summer challenge (make sure they give you credit) - 5 points
- Completing 3 challenges in a row - 3 points
- Completing 5 challenges - 5 points
- Completing ALL 8 challenges - 5 points

## **4 View other solutions and VOTE!**

You can see all the solutions and vote for your favorites from 12:00pm ET on Monday, August 18 until 3:00pm on Tuesday, August 19. See our [voting rules](#) for more

## **5 Winners announced around 8:00pm on August 19!**

Audience Choice Award: Goes to the solution with the most online votes.

Board Choice Awards: Selected by the Junior Board of Engineers. Solutions will be judged on originality, execution, and presentation.

Epic Fail Award: Show us your failed attempts! This award goes to the most impressive failure of the week.

Winners receive their choice of an *Invent the Summer* t-shirt, bag, or notebook.