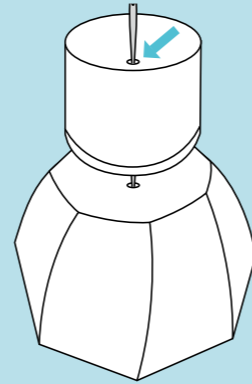# COMMAND MODULE

At the top of a crewed rocket, you'll see the small, cone-shaped command module. This is where the astronauts sit during take-off, and contains the instruments they need to control the mission.
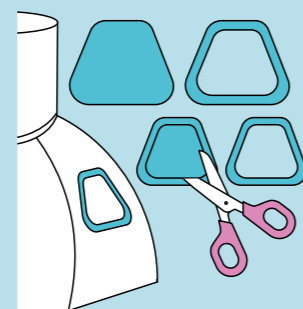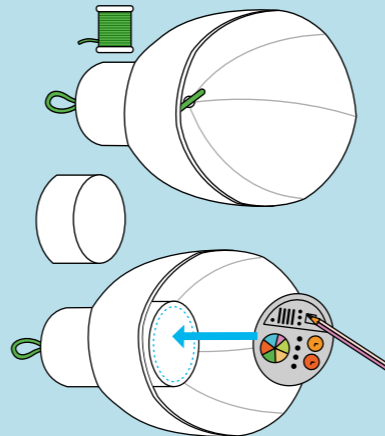
WHAT YOU NEED

- A large round plastic or paper bowl, such as a disposable salad bowl
- A smaller round plastic or paper bowl
- Small cardboard boxes
- Thick card
- A bradawl or large needle
- Garden wire and wire cutters, or a pipe cleaner
- Scissors and a craft knife
- Felt-tip and marker pens
- Two bendy straws
- Strong glue or a glue gun
- Silver or grey paint and a paintbrush
- White PVA glue
- Beads, buttons, lids, straws or other small objects
- Plain stickers
- Sticky tack

1 Use the bradawl or needle to make a hole in the middle of the base of each bowl. Glue the small bowl on top of the larger one.
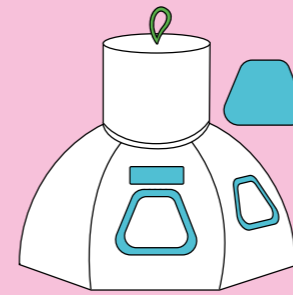
2 Fold the pipe cleaner, or a piece of wire about 30 cm long, in half to make a loop. Push the ends through both bowls from the top, leaving the loop sticking out. Inside the larger bowl, bend the ends over to hold the wire in place.

3 Cut off part of a small cardboard box. Glue it inside the larger bowl to make a control panel. Cut a piece of card the same size as the panel. Draw controls and buttons on it and stick it on.
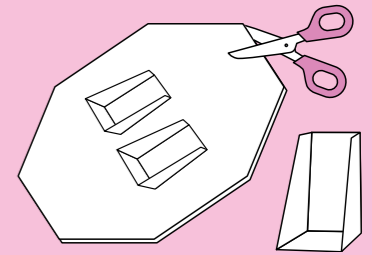
4 With a marker, draw an entry hatch and smaller windows on the larger bowl. Carefully cut them out. Draw around the cut-out shapes on to thick card. Cut out a frame for each one. Glue the frames around the holes.
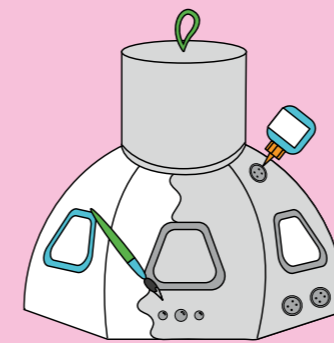
5 For the entry hatch, cut out a door shape the same size as the frame around the entry hatch. Cut a smaller strip of card and glue it to the bowl above the entry hatch frame.
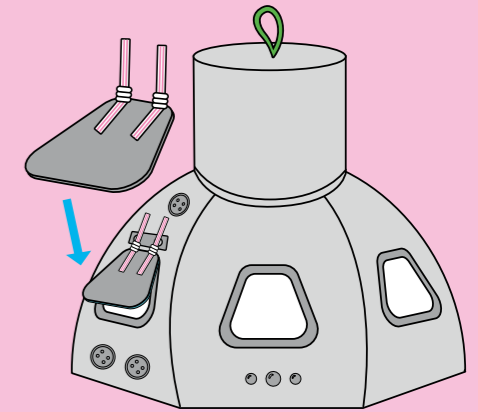
6 Draw around the large bowl on to thick card. Cut out the shape to make a base. Cut two seat shapes from the corners of small cardboard boxes, and glue them to the middle of the base.
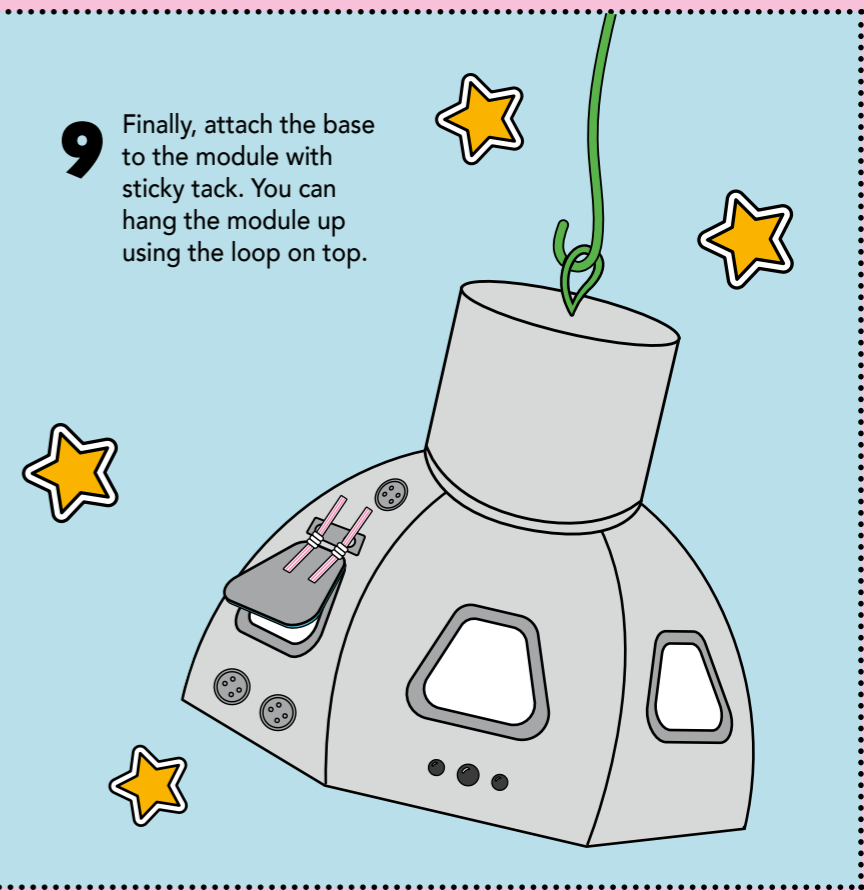
7 Glue objects such as buttons, beads, lids and pieces of straw on to the module to make controls and instruments. When they're dry, paint the module, the base and the hatch door with grey or silver paint, mixed with an equal amount of white PVA glue to help it stick. Leave to dry.

8 Cut the ends off the straws, leaving about 1 cm on each side of the bendy sections. Glue one end of each straw to the hatch door and the other ends to the strip above the door, so that it can open and close.

9 Finally, attach the base to the module with sticky tack. You can hang the module up using the loop on top.

THE SCIENCE BIT!

After separating from the rocket, the command module brings the astronauts back to Earth. It gets very hot as it speeds through the atmosphere, so real-life modules have a thick heat shield.