

Make It Move Belt Loop College Class

Hello Parents & Scouts,

My name is Bob Petrarca. I've been an adult scouter, den leader and camp master in the Council since 2006 when my boys first started in scouting. I have taught at the Merit Badge Callege and the Beltloop college for the past 6 years. I have been teaching the "Make It Move" belt loop for the past 4 years.



The class can get quite lively in-person with all the hands-on demonstrations. Unfortunately we will not have that opportunity this year but I will make the class as fun as possible despite it being virtual. I will warn you, things start to get flung around the room in this class especially when we discuss levers and build stick bombs, so I would encourage you to hide the breakables and probably put something over the flat screen so we can have a bit of fun. 😊 To introduce Rube Goldgerg machines, I use this clip from, "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QNFZKS3X_rw . Please watch this with your scout(s) at your leisure.

I need to update the documentation I hand out to reflect the changes for the virtual learning this year. I will have that done shortly and pass that along to the leadership so they can get it out to you. I highly encourage you to join in with your scout(s) especially with the stick weaving which requires a bit of dexterity. I spend the week before the class each year getting myself re-trained on how to do it again. 😊

Having older children myself, I realize that some children are still not fully comfortable being on camera with virtual learning. I do encourage a lot of discussion and back and forth during the class to get everyone

involved. At one point, we draw and discuss Rube Goldberg machines with each other. Even in-person, some scouts are reluctant to get up and speak while others jump at the opportunity. If at any time your scout(s) need a break from the camera, I completely understand. I encourage you all to participate at a level that you and your scout(s) feel most comfortable at.

Please see the following list of items that you should obtain to get the most fun out of the class. I look forward to seeing you on 2/17/2021 at 6:00PM.

Make It Move Items



The picture above is from the kit I provide at the in-person, "Make it Move" Belt Loop College class. You don't need all these exact items, in fact you can find many similar items around the house or relatively inexpensively at Walmart or any craft store like Michaels.

Below is a suggested list of items so that you and your scout(s) can follow along with the demonstrations as we go.

1. Spool or bobbin, something to act as a pulley
2. Nail or dowel that the pulley can spin freely on
3. 12" or longer piece of string to pull over the pulley
4. A block, bead or other item that can tie to one end of the string as a weight
5. A popsicle stick, ruler, paint stirrer, something that can be used as a lever
6. A spool, block, clothes pin, something to use as a fulcrum for the lever
7. 4 or 5 blocks, dominos, Lego-type blocks that can be balanced on the lever like a scale
8. 5 or 6 large craft sticks, tongue depressor size, to make a stick bomb. Popsicle sticks are too thick and rigid for this
9. Colored pencils or crayons and blank paper for drawing