In this activity,

You will create your own SR-71 Blackbird Model, and learn all about how the fastest plane in the Museum (and maybe the world!) flies.

Words to Know:

- Delta Wing – a single triangular swept-back wing on some aircraft
- Speed of Sound – the speed at which sound waves move through the air (767 mph)
- Fuselage – the main body of an aircraft
- Drag – the slowing force in the air
- Friction – Friction is a force that holds back the movement of a sliding object.

Ideas to Explore

The Blackbird is one of the fastest planes ever made, and has a unique shape and design that helps it fly as fast as it does. During the creation of your SR-71 Blackbird model you will notice some of the design elements and learn about the different parts of the Blackbird.

Share it!

Share your Blackbird Model with us on your social channels tagging @BoeingAcademy for a chance to be featured!
Step One
Gather supplies.

Step Two
Color pieces. If using marker, make sure not to color too dark so that you can see fold/guide lines.

Step Three
Cut pieces. You should have (4) total. Be sure to not cut the handle piece in half – just cut around the outside of the rectangle.
**Step Four**

Color the other side of the cut pieces. You can wait to color the bottom of your Blackbird, but it is much easier to color your uprights now so that they are colored on both sides.

**Step Five**

Fold uprights on dotted line. Match upright to the wing with folded tab toward center of aircraft (do not cover Museum of Flight). Tape first on the outside and then on the inside so upright is secure from both sides.

**Step Six**

Repeat steps with other upright.
Step Seven
Make the handle. Fold rectangle in half on solid line. Then fold again on other dotted lines to create a "W".

Step Eight
Squeeze "W" together to create a "T" shape. Tape to hold shape.

Step Nine
Tape "T" shaped handle on the underside of the Blackbird just in front of the wings.

Step Ten
Show someone your completed Blackbird model!
Want more?
Let’s make it powered!

**Step One**
Gather your materials – you’ll need your finished Blackbird model, tape, one larger paperclip, one rubber band, and one plastic straw.

**Step Two**
Fold the straw over the rubber band and secure the end with tape. This creates the launcher for the model.

**Step Three**
Place the large paperclip on the tip of the underside of the finished Blackbird model and secure with tape.
Step Four
Place the straw and rubber band (rubber band side towards the paperclip) on the underside of the finished Blackbird model, and secure with tape.

Step Five
Hold the glider with one hand and hook the rubber band around the tip of your other hand’s thumb and pull pack on the opposite end of the glider. Release the straw and the model will fly forward.

Step Six
You can vary the thrust of the model by varying the initial stretch of the rubber bands. Using a ruler or meter stick would allow you to double the stretch and see how the distance of flight changes.
Build your own Blackbird