

# Exploding sticks

2

Create a chain reaction and witness the power of potential energy.

## What you need

- Lots of jumbo lollipop sticks
- A steady hand
- Lots of patience

## How does it work?

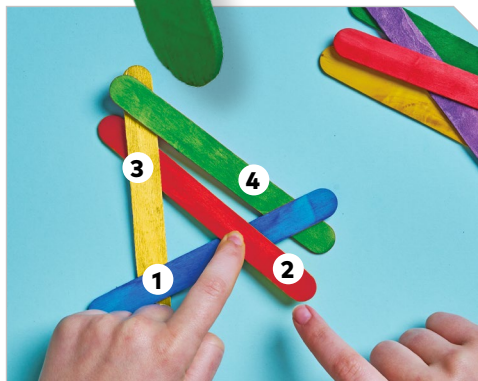
It takes a bit of force to weave stiff wooden sticks. When you flex the lollipop sticks, you store energy as tension. This potential energy is the ability for the stick to return the force and snap back to a flat shape. When you let go of the end stick, the energy moves from a potential energy store to a kinetic energy (moving energy) store, triggering a speedy chain reaction.

## TOP TIP!

Getting the weave correct can be fiddly. This video showing how to interlink your lollipop sticks will help: [tinyurl.com/SN-ChainReaction](http://tinyurl.com/SN-ChainReaction)



**1** Arrange two sticks in a cross shape. Now, place a third over the second stick and under the first.



**2** Slide a fourth stick over the third stick and under the first. Stick 4 should be parallel to stick 2.



**3** Repeat this pattern to build a long chain. Once you are ready, release the yellow trigger stick.