

# How a Kite Flies

Kites need to have a large area that catches the wind. This is called the body.



Photo courtesy of diana robinson (@flickr.com) - granted under creative commons licence - attribution



#### Diamond

The Diamond kite is probably the most recognised type of kite. For many years it has remained popular due to its stable and reliable flying characteristics.



Photo courtesy of Ballayet - granted under creative commons licence - attribution



#### Rokkaku

The Rokkaku kite is a traditional Japanese fighting kite.

The Rok, as it is often referred to, is a tailless bowed design.
The bow adds stability, making it an easy kite to fly.



The Rokkaku is hexagonal in shape.

Photo courtesy of N Blueion - granted under creative commons licence - attribution



### <u>Delta</u>

The Delta design is an efficient one that performs better than most other flat kites in light winds.



Photo courtesy of Paavans - granted under creative commons licence - attribution



### Sled

The original type of Sled has 2 straight spars running the length of the kite, and a tail hanging from the bottom end of each spar.

Air pressure then keeps the sail open and holds the kite's shape while it flies.

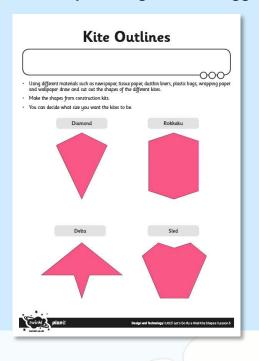


Photo courtesy of Mark Taylor (@flickr) - granted under creative commons licence - attribution





Look at the Kite Outline Activity Sheet. Use different materials such as newspaper, tissue paper, dustbin liners, plastic bags, wrapping paper and wallpaper to draw and cut out the shapes of the different kites.



# Kite Shape Challenges



Which **shape** was the hardest/easiest to make?

Which **material** was the hardest/easiest to make?

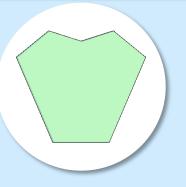




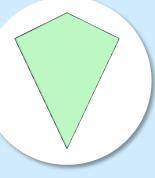




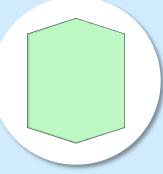




Sled



Diamond



Rokkaku

You should use your findings when you design your own kite next lesson.