

DO TRY THIS AT HOME

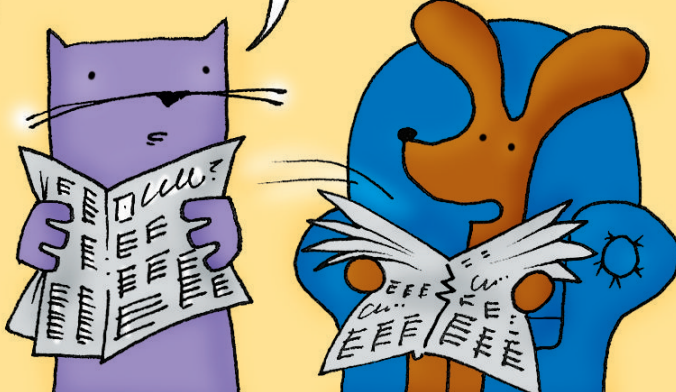
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Featuring: **Marvin and Milo**

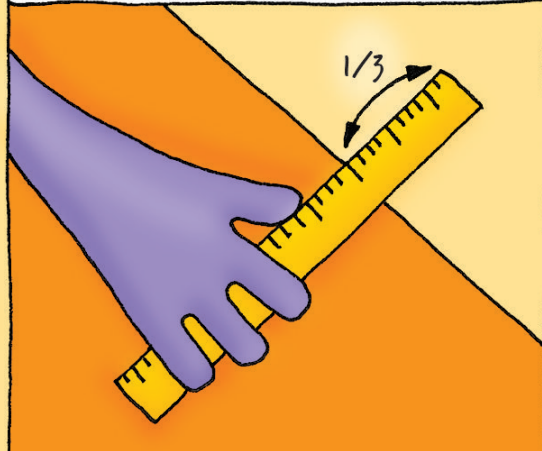
What you need: • A table • A ruler • A newspaper



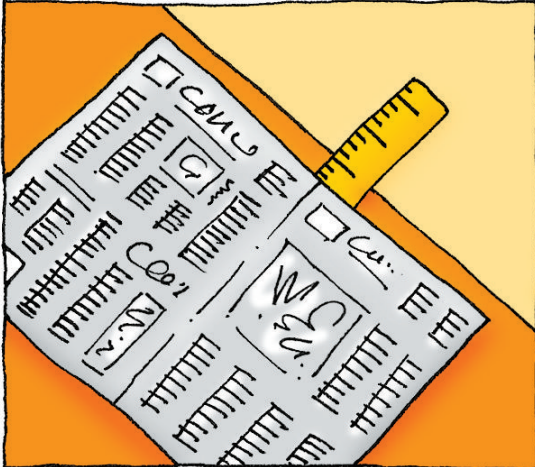
Hey Milo, have you finished with the science section?



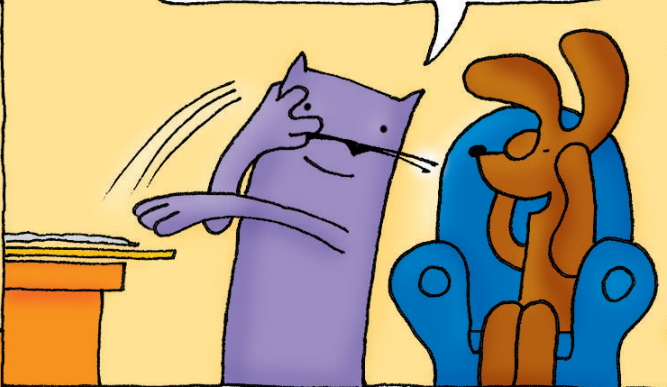
Lay the ruler on the table so about a third of it hangs over the edge.



Carefully lay a single sheet of newspaper flat on the table and over ruler.

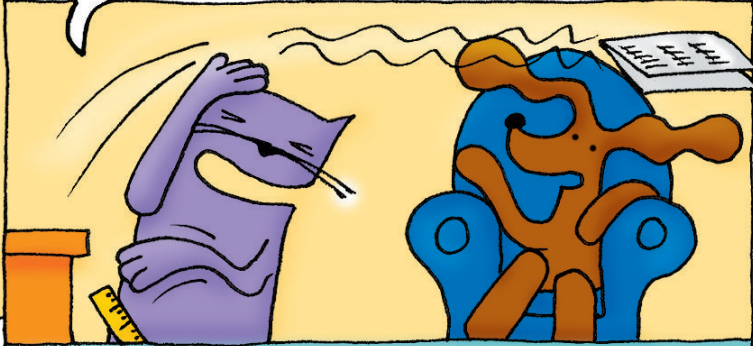


Hit the end of the ruler with your hand - the ruler stays where it is!



What happens if you try again, but this time with the sheet of newspaper folding up?

The flat sheet of newspaper has a large enough area so that the downward force of the atmosphere counters the upward force from the ruler. But the folded-up newspaper has a much smaller surface area, so doesn't stop the ruler from going flying when it's hit.



Vic Le Billon