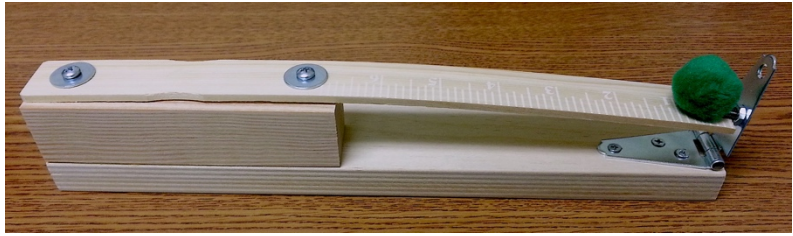


# Springboard Maintenance

The springboards that come in your kit were designed to hold the paint paddle in a moderately deflected position, and, when the latch is released, to send a pompom a few feet in the air but not flying across the classroom.



With normal use, the springboards will eventually need some very simple maintenance to continue performing as designed. The two problems that are likely to develop, along with the simple solutions, are listed below.

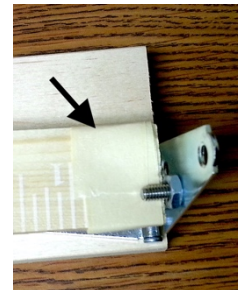
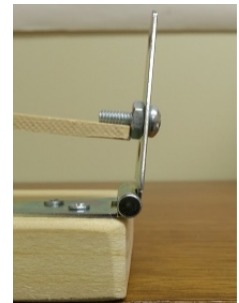
## 1. Latch fails to hold the paint paddle in the deflected position

Possible cause #1: the nut that holds the short bolt in position on the hinge has loosened. Check this first.

To correct: tighten the nut so that the bolt is held tightly against the hinge and perpendicular to the hinge.

Possible cause #2: repeated use of the springboard has worn a smooth groove in the paint paddle, reducing friction between the bolt threads and the wood.

To correct: wrap a couple of layers of masking tape around the end of the paint paddle. This can be repeated as often as necessary.



## 2. Paint paddle loses some of its “kick” or springiness over time and launches the pompom just a few inches into the air.

Likely cause: the paint paddle has developed a permanent downward curve.

To correct: Tape one or two craft sticks to the upper surface of the paint paddle.

Note: Never store the springboards with the paint paddle in the latched, deflected position. Doing so will most likely cause a permanent curve in the paint paddle.

