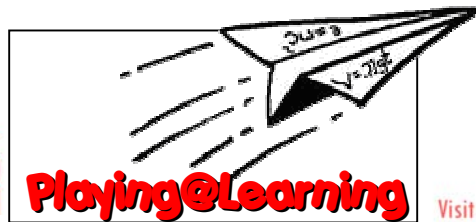


# ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR



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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### FAIR TO HOST WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT Entries Are Now Being Accepted To Participate In Construction Of Largest-Ever Rube Goldberg Machine

PLEASANTON, CA – April 25, 2005 – The Alameda County Fair and Playing At Learning have partnered to organize a world record-breaking attempt to construct the largest Rube Goldberg<sup>1</sup> Machine ever seen. This project will begin as a contest anyone can enter, with those entries meeting all the guidelines being invited to participate in the world record attempt during the July Fourth weekend. In this version of the Rube Goldberg Machine Contest, each machine must be built out of LEGO<sup>®</sup> elements. The contest, which will take place in the Technology Adventures Building at the 2005 Alameda County Fair, has 4 class divisions: grades K to 5, grades 6 to 8, grades 9 to 12, and an all ages “open” division. There is no cost to enter, but participants must pre-register by May 14, 2005. Entry information is available online at [www.AlamedaCountyFair.com](http://www.AlamedaCountyFair.com), or by calling 925-426-7611.

Rube Goldberg Machines seek the most complicated solution to a simple problem. In fact, the more steps to a solution, the better the Rube Goldberg Machine. By adopting rules developed by *Adult Fans of LEGO<sup>®</sup>s* for cooperatively-built LEGO<sup>®</sup> structures, each individual machine is modularized so that it can be incorporated into a single machine. LEGO<sup>®</sup> pieces such as balls, gears, motors, touch sensors and the classic LEGO<sup>®</sup> bricks can all be combined to build crazy contraptions.

Each Rube Goldberg Machine module will be judged individually, and those meeting the community guidelines will be invited to participate in the world record attempt during the July Fourth weekend. The machines will be on display in the Technology Adventures Building during this year's Fair, which runs from June 24 to July 10, 2005.

Each individual machine's goal is simple enough - raise a small LEGO<sup>®</sup> flag off the ground for at least five seconds. However, the aim is to do this in the most complicated fashion possible. Each qualifying machine will then cascade into a single Rube Goldberg Machine that will eventually lift a replica U.S. Flag (built out of LEGO<sup>®</sup> pieces, of course) off the ground. The Guinness World Record organization has accepted our community machine as an official world record attempt for the largest Rube Goldberg Machine.

The current world record holder for the largest Rube Goldberg Machine is Monache High School in Porterville, CA, whose students designed a 113-step machine out of everyday materials.

For more information regarding the Rube Goldberg Machine Contest or the 2005 Alameda County Fair, please visit [www.AlamedaCountyFair.com](http://www.AlamedaCountyFair.com).

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<sup>1</sup> Rube Goldberg is the ® and © of Rube Goldberg Inc.