

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:03,720

Remember, don't try this at home.

2

00:00:03,720 --> 00:00:05,720

We're what you call experts.

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00:00:05,720 --> 00:00:13,000

In this episode of Mythbusters,

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00:00:13,000 --> 00:00:20,000

Adam and Jamie take a pot shot at one of the craziest myths around.

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00:00:20,000 --> 00:00:25,400

That was the scariest thing I've ever done on this show.

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00:00:25,400 --> 00:00:29,000

Is the American border being breached by daredevil slingshotters?

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00:00:29,000 --> 00:00:31,000

You're int! You're int!

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00:00:31,000 --> 00:00:32,000

I'm pleased!

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00:00:32,000 --> 00:00:37,000

And can the team bust the world record for hurling a human projectile?

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00:00:37,000 --> 00:00:40,000

Three, two, one!

11

00:00:40,000 --> 00:00:43,000

Who are the Mythbusters?

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00:00:43,000 --> 00:00:46,000

Am I missing an eyebrow?

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00:00:46,000 --> 00:00:47,000

Adam Savage

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00:00:47,000 --> 00:00:50,000

I reject the reality and substitute my own.

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00:00:50,000 --> 00:00:51,000

Jamie Heineman

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00:00:51,000 --> 00:00:52,000

Fuck, damn you.

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00:00:52,000 --> 00:00:55,000

I wouldn't say Jamie's an evil genius.

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00:00:55,000 --> 00:00:59,000

Between them more than 30 years special effects experience,

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00:00:59,000 --> 00:01:01,000

When will the fun ever stop?

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00:01:01,000 --> 00:01:05,000

They don't just tell the myths, they put them to the test.

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00:01:16,000 --> 00:01:19,000

What the hell is a border slingshot?

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00:01:19,000 --> 00:01:24,000

Well, we have a new myth involving people that are wanting to illegally enter the country.

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00:01:24,000 --> 00:01:28,000

And they've apparently developed a gigantic slingshot,

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00:01:28,000 --> 00:01:32,000

capable of launching them 200 yards over the top of a fence.

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00:01:32,000 --> 00:01:36,000

And supposedly it's accurate enough to land them in a mattress on the other side.

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00:01:36,000 --> 00:01:40,000

Well, I've heard they're not only doing this with individuals,

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00:01:40,000 --> 00:01:44,000

but they're offering a family package where they can shoot up to four people

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00:01:44,000 --> 00:01:47,000

over that fence and onto that tiny little mattress.

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00:01:47,000 --> 00:01:50,000

Well, here's a couple who will probably get a big bang out of their work.

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00:01:50,000 --> 00:01:56,000

The myth has its roots in the long and scary history of human cannonballs.

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00:01:56,000 --> 00:02:00,000

They go hurtling with terrific speed through the open space.

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00:02:00,000 --> 00:02:06,000

Ever since the 1870s, people have been firing themselves on ballistic trajectories.

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00:02:06,000 --> 00:02:10,000

But could you really cross the border like this?

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00:02:10,000 --> 00:02:12,000

So what is our plan?

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00:02:12,000 --> 00:02:16,000

Well, the first thing we have to do, I guess, is replicate a big slingshot.

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00:02:16,000 --> 00:02:23,000

And it's going to have to be something that is capable of launching, say, a 185-pound person 200 yards.

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00:02:23,000 --> 00:02:25,000

That's a big-ass slingshot.

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00:02:25,000 --> 00:02:27,000

Yeah, at least one person.

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00:02:27,000 --> 00:02:30,000

Well, in order so that we don't build something massive and get it wrong,

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00:02:30,000 --> 00:02:35,000

I really think we should start with some small-scale testing of all the various materials we could use,

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00:02:35,000 --> 00:02:39,000

use specific lengths of that, shoot different objects of different weights,

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00:02:39,000 --> 00:02:45,000

and come up with, hopefully, an equation that will tell us what's the best thing to use for a full-size slingshot.

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00:02:45,000 --> 00:02:49,000

Well, you know, with a big build like this, it's always best to start with a small scale.

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00:02:49,000 --> 00:02:51,000

It ought to tell us something.

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00:02:51,000 --> 00:02:58,000

So armed with a small as beautiful philosophy, Adam and Jamie ease into this myth.

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00:02:58,000 --> 00:03:04,000

Targets, more targets, with a store-bought slingshot challenge.

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00:03:04,000 --> 00:03:06,000

I know how much you love competition.

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00:03:06,000 --> 00:03:13,000

Shall we do a little slingshot challenge, see if I can hit the blue jays out of the apple trees like you did back in the 20s?

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00:03:13,000 --> 00:03:14,000

Yeah, sure, why not?

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00:03:14,000 --> 00:03:19,000

What's a five points, four points, three points, two points?

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00:03:19,000 --> 00:03:20,000

Okay.

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00:03:20,000 --> 00:03:21,000

You feeling lucky, buddy?

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00:03:21,000 --> 00:03:22,000

Nope.

54

00:03:22,000 --> 00:03:23,000

You feeling lucky?

55

00:03:26,000 --> 00:03:29,000

They'll calculate velocity using the high-speed camera.

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00:03:29,000 --> 00:03:33,000

These slingshots aren't toys, so don't try this at home.

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00:03:33,000 --> 00:03:35,000

These are like bullets.

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00:03:35,000 --> 00:03:36,000

They will hurt.

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00:03:36,000 --> 00:03:37,000

They will kill.

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00:03:37,000 --> 00:03:40,000

Well, it'll hurt to dig them out of your leg.

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00:03:41,000 --> 00:03:42,000

That was pretty good.

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00:03:42,000 --> 00:03:44,000

I wasn't even aiming for bullseye.

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00:03:47,000 --> 00:03:49,000

Zero points for Mr. Heineman.

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00:03:49,000 --> 00:03:51,000

I had two bulls eyes in a row earlier.

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00:03:51,000 --> 00:03:54,000

I had two bulls eyes in a row earlier.

66

00:03:56,000 --> 00:03:57,000

Four.

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00:03:57,000 --> 00:03:58,000

Four pointer.

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00:03:59,000 --> 00:04:01,000

Hey, five pointer.

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00:04:01,000 --> 00:04:03,000

In your face, man.

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00:04:03,000 --> 00:04:07,000

Adam's not used to winning Mythbusters competitions.

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00:04:07,000 --> 00:04:10,000

But for once, he's right on target.

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00:04:12,000 --> 00:04:14,000

Nope, not even close.

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00:04:14,000 --> 00:04:15,000

Woo!

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00:04:16,000 --> 00:04:19,000

Another pointless competition brought to you by Mythbusters.

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00:04:19,000 --> 00:04:23,000

That looked like a lot of fun, but how about the science?

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00:04:25,000 --> 00:04:29,000

Their steel shot reached speeds of up to 85 miles per hour.

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00:04:31,000 --> 00:04:34,000

At competition level, slingshots can achieve twice that,

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00:04:34,000 --> 00:04:37,000

so there's plenty of room for improvement.

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00:04:38,000 --> 00:04:41,000

We now want to look at a whole variety of different materials,

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00:04:41,000 --> 00:04:46,000

elastics, shot cords, bungee cords, rubbers, etc.

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00:04:46,000 --> 00:04:51,000

And see if one of those gives a better velocity or a better contraction,

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00:04:51,000 --> 00:04:56,000

and we'll learn a lot more about what actually gives us the ideal slingshot.

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00:04:56,000 --> 00:04:59,000

They're scaling things up a notch by turning the scissor lift

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00:04:59,000 --> 00:05:02,000

into a medium-range slingshot.

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00:05:02,000 --> 00:05:05,000

It's important for this thing to be fairly rigid,

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00:05:05,000 --> 00:05:08,000

because we're going to be looking very closely at the speeds and dynamics

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00:05:08,000 --> 00:05:10,000

of what are going on.

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00:05:10,000 --> 00:05:16,000

If the platform moves, that's a variable that will give us, you know, false results.

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00:05:17,000 --> 00:05:21,000

Adam decides to make the test missile weigh exactly one kilo,

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00:05:21,000 --> 00:05:25,000

metric being the international scientific unit of measurement.

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00:05:25,000 --> 00:05:31,000

That hull took about 50 grams out of it, so two more hulls ought to do just the ticket.

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00:05:32,000 --> 00:05:35,000

A one kilo weight will make it easier to analyze their results

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00:05:35,000 --> 00:05:38,000

when they carry out their test firings.

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00:05:40,000 --> 00:05:45,000

Hey! How about that? Exactly a kilo.

95

00:05:45,000 --> 00:05:48,000

With an array of test firings planned,

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00:05:48,000 --> 00:05:52,000

Adam paints the projectile to guard against lead poisoning,

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00:05:52,000 --> 00:05:54,000

because that's bad.

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00:05:54,000 --> 00:05:57,000

Fabric and velvet, velvet stripes, white, white, yellow, orange.

99

00:05:57,000 --> 00:05:59,000

Do you see leather?

100

00:05:59,000 --> 00:06:02,000

He's looking for material to make a firing pouch.

101

00:06:02,000 --> 00:06:06,000

One perfectly good pair of gloves.

102

00:06:06,000 --> 00:06:09,000

No Jamie in sight? Sort it.

103

00:06:09,000 --> 00:06:12,000

A quick snip.

104

00:06:12,000 --> 00:06:14,000

A couple of stitches.

105

00:06:14,000 --> 00:06:16,000

A pair of grommets.

106

00:06:16,000 --> 00:06:18,000

And Jamie's none the wiser.

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00:06:18,000 --> 00:06:20,000

It looks like it shouldn't grab a hold of it.

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00:06:20,000 --> 00:06:21,000

Yeah.

109

00:06:21,000 --> 00:06:25,000

A delivery to M5 turns out to be a box full of budgie.

110

00:06:25,000 --> 00:06:28,000

This is the commercial stuff.

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00:06:28,000 --> 00:06:29,000

Right.

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00:06:29,000 --> 00:06:32,000

And that's the military stuff.

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00:06:32,000 --> 00:06:35,000

For the same size, this has my money.

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00:06:35,000 --> 00:06:38,000

With a whole day of testing ahead,

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00:06:38,000 --> 00:06:41,000

Adam's unhappy with the rig.

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00:06:41,000 --> 00:06:43,000

You can do all the firing now.

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00:06:43,000 --> 00:06:46,000

That scares the sh\*\* out of me.

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00:06:46,000 --> 00:06:48,000

I mean, you're running it over a hard point.

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00:06:48,000 --> 00:06:51,000

I mean, you could humor me and soften that with the angled grinder

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00:06:51,000 --> 00:06:54,000

and stuff like that, but running it through such a hard point

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00:06:54,000 --> 00:06:56,000

makes me too happy.

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00:06:56,000 --> 00:07:00,000

Jamie softens the edges and strengthens the yoke

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00:07:00,000 --> 00:07:02,000

by welding on a pair of support struts.

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00:07:02,000 --> 00:07:06,000

And before the day is done, the rig's done too.

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00:07:06,000 --> 00:07:08,000

Whoa.

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00:07:08,000 --> 00:07:09,000

Dude.

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00:07:09,000 --> 00:07:14,000

So it's out to M5's lot to see if the scissor lift slingshot

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00:07:14,000 --> 00:07:16,000

will cut the mustard.

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00:07:16,000 --> 00:07:20,000

Well, we're just sort of dialing our system in right now.

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00:07:20,000 --> 00:07:23,000

We've got the scissor lift set up to be the yoke of our slingshot.

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00:07:23,000 --> 00:07:28,000

We've got some military grade bungee here and our one kilo ball.

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00:07:28,000 --> 00:07:33,000

And I hope we don't hit that blue van all the way at the end of the parking lot.

133

00:07:33,000 --> 00:07:37,000

I suspect we'll hit somewhere about halfway between here and there.

134

00:07:37,000 --> 00:07:42,000

After the break, the sling along gets underway

135

00:07:42,000 --> 00:07:45,000

as the myth busters search for the right cork.

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00:07:45,000 --> 00:07:48,000

That's what we call a home run.

137

00:07:48,000 --> 00:07:52,000

And Adam reveals Jamie has a thing for thongs.

138

00:07:52,000 --> 00:07:54,000

And Jamie heads out into the jungle.

139

00:07:54,000 --> 00:07:56,000

This is often all he wears.

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00:08:12,000 --> 00:08:14,000

In the myth of border slingshot,

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00:08:14,000 --> 00:08:19,000

Adam and Jamie prepare their scissor lift rig for a day of test firing.

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00:08:20,000 --> 00:08:24,000

They're trying to work out what it would take to launch a human

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00:08:24,000 --> 00:08:28,000

200 yards across the U.S. frontier.

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00:08:28,000 --> 00:08:30,000

In Oxfordshire, Great Britain,

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00:08:30,000 --> 00:08:33,000

the mad dogs and Englishmen of the dangerous sports club

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00:08:33,000 --> 00:08:38,000

built a medieval trebuchet to toss adrenaline junkies

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00:08:38,000 --> 00:08:42,000

180 feet at speeds of up to 40 miles per hour.

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00:08:42,000 --> 00:08:47,000

In the year 2000, the unfortunate Stella Young took the ride.

149

00:08:47,000 --> 00:08:52,000

She hit the safety net, then the ground, and then the headlines.

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00:08:52,000 --> 00:08:54,000

Stella escaped with a broken pelvis.

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00:08:54,000 --> 00:09:00,000

Two years later, a 19-year-old man missed the net completely and died.

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00:09:00,000 --> 00:09:05,000

Before the myth busters work their way up to a human-sized slingshot,

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00:09:05,000 --> 00:09:09,000

they're going to carry out extensive testing on small things.

154

00:09:09,000 --> 00:09:13,000

They're going to carry out extensive testing on small projectiles

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00:09:13,000 --> 00:09:15,000

using five different types of rubber.

156

00:09:15,000 --> 00:09:18,000

Jamie heads out into the jungle. This is often all he wears.

157

00:09:18,000 --> 00:09:24,000

First up, a one-meter length of military bungee and a one-kilo projectile.

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00:09:24,000 --> 00:09:29,000

The ruler is at 45 degrees to the scissor lift for the best firing angle.

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00:09:29,000 --> 00:09:30,000

Can I do the first one?

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00:09:30,000 --> 00:09:31,000

Sure.

161

00:09:31,000 --> 00:09:33,000

Mark this off at the maximum stretch.

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00:09:33,000 --> 00:09:37,000

Jamie marks the release point so that when they scale up to full size,

163

00:09:37,000 --> 00:09:40,000

they'll know how much pullback space they'll need.

164

00:09:40,000 --> 00:09:43,000

In three, two, one.

165

00:09:49,000 --> 00:09:52,000

Jamie's standing exactly where it landed.

166

00:09:52,000 --> 00:09:54,000

He can see it hit right here.

167

00:09:54,000 --> 00:10:01,000

Test number one, military bungee propelled our one kilogram weight, about 67 feet.

168

00:10:01,000 --> 00:10:04,000

So the next one up is the stranded shock cord.

169

00:10:04,000 --> 00:10:07,000

This stuff is apparently super, super expensive.

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00:10:07,000 --> 00:10:11,000

First, they measure the tension and pullback distance.

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00:10:11,000 --> 00:10:14,000

Three, two, one.

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00:10:16,000 --> 00:10:18,000

Forty-three feet.

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00:10:18,000 --> 00:10:22,000

That's a full 24 feet less than the military bungee.

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00:10:22,000 --> 00:10:25,000

Next up, solid shock cord.

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00:10:25,000 --> 00:10:28,000

In three, two, one.

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00:10:31,000 --> 00:10:33,000

385.

177

00:10:33,000 --> 00:10:35,000

I suspect we started with the best.

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00:10:35,000 --> 00:10:37,000

I'm curious to see what the surgical rubber does,

179

00:10:37,000 --> 00:10:41,000

because I have a suspicion that might be the best, but I don't really know.

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00:10:41,000 --> 00:10:45,000

Not having handled military grade bungee cord before.

181

00:10:45,000 --> 00:10:48,000

Not in a long time. Not since Denang, right?

182

00:10:48,000 --> 00:10:54,000

Last, but if Jamie's right, not least, quarter inch surgical tubing.

183

00:10:54,000 --> 00:10:58,000

It's more elastic than the other material, so they have to raise the scissor lift

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00:10:58,000 --> 00:11:00,000

to get a 45 degree angle.

185

00:11:00,000 --> 00:11:03,000

You want to just hold it and I'll fire it, and we'll see where it goes.

186

00:11:03,000 --> 00:11:04,000

Yeah, exactly.

187

00:11:04,000 --> 00:11:05,000

Okay, there's the ball.

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00:11:05,000 --> 00:11:07,000

The ball's up there, of course.

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00:11:07,000 --> 00:11:09,000

What else would it be?

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00:11:10,000 --> 00:11:15,000

The pullback is 14 feet, double the distance of the other contenders.

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00:11:15,000 --> 00:11:18,000

The tension measures 37 pounds.

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00:11:18,000 --> 00:11:23,000

And three, two, one.

193

00:11:23,000 --> 00:11:25,000

Where did that go?

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00:11:25,000 --> 00:11:27,000

It's someplace in the grass.

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00:11:27,000 --> 00:11:30,000

Really? I didn't think that was going to work that well.

196

00:11:30,000 --> 00:11:35,000

The high speed footage records a velocity of almost 100 feet per second.

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00:11:35,000 --> 00:11:42,000

Over double the speed of the shock cords, and 33% faster than the military bungee.

198

00:11:42,000 --> 00:11:44,000

Hey, Jamie.

199

00:11:44,000 --> 00:11:47,000

It went over the truck and it hit the wall.

200

00:11:47,000 --> 00:11:49,000

I think we have our answer.

201

00:11:49,000 --> 00:11:51,000

Part of it.

202

00:11:51,000 --> 00:11:56,000

The surgical rubber delivered double the distance of the next best, the military bungee.

203

00:11:56,000 --> 00:11:58,000

Well, I think we've got some really good data so far.

204

00:11:58,000 --> 00:12:00,000

What has it told us?

205

00:12:00,000 --> 00:12:05,000

Well, it told us that surgical rubber tubing is our best bet, way out from one of the other rubber.

206

00:12:05,000 --> 00:12:08,000

What do you think? Are we ready to go full scale yet?

207

00:12:08,000 --> 00:12:11,000

Eh, I'm not so sure we should go right to full scale.

208

00:12:11,000 --> 00:12:13,000

This is a lot of material we're talking about.

209

00:12:13,000 --> 00:12:17,000

I'd like to do one more interim test just to make sure all our figures are dialed in.

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00:12:17,000 --> 00:12:19,000

Yeah, this is a big deal. That'd be the safest thing.

211

00:12:19,000 --> 00:12:20,000

Yeah.

212

00:12:20,000 --> 00:12:21,000

Okay.

213

00:12:22,000 --> 00:12:29,000

Before they commit themselves, they need to fill in some gaps in their knowledge of the properties of surgical rubber.

214

00:12:29,000 --> 00:12:32,000

There's a few factors we still don't know about it.

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00:12:32,000 --> 00:12:35,000

We don't know what its maximum pull strength is.

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00:12:35,000 --> 00:12:36,000

It's breaking strength.

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00:12:36,000 --> 00:12:39,000

We don't know how long that will be.

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00:12:39,000 --> 00:12:41,000

So, we're at a 10 foot length.

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00:12:41,000 --> 00:12:45,000

We don't know whether it'll pull to 40, 60, 70 feet.

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00:12:45,000 --> 00:12:52,000

So, they set up a strainometer, which involves a measuring strip, a scale, a forklift,

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00:12:52,000 --> 00:12:55,000

and a 10 foot length of one inch surgical tubing.

222

00:12:55,000 --> 00:12:57,000

Okay, you ready?

223

00:13:01,000 --> 00:13:02,000

50 pounds.

224

00:13:02,000 --> 00:13:04,000

Okay, he's at 40 feet.

225

00:13:04,000 --> 00:13:06,000

We're at 70 pounds.

226

00:13:06,000 --> 00:13:08,000

Yeah, we're at 50 feet.

227

00:13:08,000 --> 00:13:10,000

We're at 100 pounds.

228

00:13:10,000 --> 00:13:12,000

Okay, now you're in the danger zone.

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00:13:15,000 --> 00:13:18,000

Did you see what it was?

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00:13:18,000 --> 00:13:21,000

Looks like on this one, we got to about 150 pounds.

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00:13:21,000 --> 00:13:28,000

The 10 foot length of rubber snapped at 60 feet, a ratio of 6 to 1.

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00:13:28,000 --> 00:13:30,000

It's pretty chunked up.

233

00:13:30,000 --> 00:13:33,000

I mean, it definitely spikes right there after a 5 to 1 pull.

234

00:13:33,000 --> 00:13:34,000

Yeah.

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00:13:34,000 --> 00:13:37,000

That's like 5 to 1 is its maximum ability.

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00:13:37,000 --> 00:13:43,000

Which means 50 feet is the safe pullback limit for a 10 foot length of surgical rubber.

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00:13:43,000 --> 00:13:47,000

Now, they need to know just one more crucial number.

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00:13:47,000 --> 00:13:51,000

Well, this might look like one of the lost scene stones from The Lord of the Rings.

239

00:13:51,000 --> 00:13:58,000

In fact, it's an 8 pound bowling ball, and this is part of our next scaling up of the boarder slingshot.

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00:13:58,000 --> 00:14:06,000

When I'm done with this, it's going to weigh just about 8 kilos, which is roughly 1 tenth of Buster's final weight.

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00:14:06,000 --> 00:14:09,000

And that will give them the magic figure they need.

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00:14:09,000 --> 00:14:15,000

A successful bowling ball flight will let them scale up for the big one by a factor of 10.

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00:14:15,000 --> 00:14:19,000

What we're going to do with this is we're going to take it out to an unsuspecting football field,

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00:14:19,000 --> 00:14:23,000

rig up our surgical tubing and our other stuff to the goal posts,

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00:14:23,000 --> 00:14:29,000

turning them into an excessively large slingshot, and we're going to embed this probably in the next town.

246

00:14:29,000 --> 00:14:33,000

First, Adam must increase the weight of the bowling ball.

247

00:14:33,000 --> 00:14:35,000

Look at this thing made of.

248

00:14:35,000 --> 00:14:37,000

Here comes trouble.

249

00:14:38,000 --> 00:14:41,000

It's the world's biggest basketball.

250

00:14:45,000 --> 00:14:48,000

And that's the end of that experiment.

251

00:14:50,000 --> 00:14:52,000

Well, there's your problem.

252

00:14:52,000 --> 00:14:55,000

I did something I didn't think was humanly possible.

253

00:14:55,000 --> 00:14:59,000

I broke a big chunk out of our bowling ball.

254

00:14:59,000 --> 00:15:01,000

Is it still going to fire?

255

00:15:01,000 --> 00:15:04,000

Oh, it's still going to fire. All it needs to be is round and heavy.

256

00:15:04,000 --> 00:15:12,000

Well, also, you know, damaging your floors.

257

00:15:12,000 --> 00:15:14,000

Adam lives and Adam learns.

258

00:15:14,000 --> 00:15:16,000

I'm going to continue the destruction of this thing.

259

00:15:17,000 --> 00:15:20,000

Let's face it, it's what he does best.

260

00:15:20,000 --> 00:15:22,000

Okay, that was easy.

261

00:15:26,000 --> 00:15:28,000

I'm okay.

262

00:15:28,000 --> 00:15:31,000

It's got a creamy nougat center.

263

00:15:32,000 --> 00:15:36,000

He drills a hole and fills it with lead.

264

00:15:36,000 --> 00:15:38,000

Perfect, 17.6.

265

00:15:38,000 --> 00:15:44,000

In other words, 8 kilos, 10 death balls, and you've got yourself one buster.

266

00:15:44,000 --> 00:15:46,000

Coming up.

267

00:15:46,000 --> 00:15:50,000

Three, two, one.

268

00:15:50,000 --> 00:15:55,000

The mythbusters scatter like skittles as the death ball lives up to its name.

269

00:15:55,000 --> 00:15:58,000

Shockingly, that didn't work.

270

00:15:58,000 --> 00:16:02,000

And making a man-sized slingshot is no mean feat.

271

00:16:02,000 --> 00:16:05,000

Unfortunately, humans are big, heavy things.

272

00:16:12,000 --> 00:16:18,000

The myth of the border slingshot takes Adam and Jamie to the football fields of Ensignal High.

273

00:16:18,000 --> 00:16:20,000

Stop.

274

00:16:20,000 --> 00:16:22,000

Nicely done.

275

00:16:22,000 --> 00:16:29,000

They're testing the myth that illegal immigrants are launching themselves into the U.S. by giant slingshots.

276

00:16:29,000 --> 00:16:36,000

But first, they want to cut things down to size by tossing a bowling ball exactly one-tenth of Buster's weight.

277

00:16:36,000 --> 00:16:40,000

The school's goalposts are already made slingshot-yoke.

278

00:16:40,000 --> 00:16:43,000

Hey, Adam, I had kind of an idea.

279

00:16:43,000 --> 00:16:49,000

Since this is flexible, what if we put some guy wires or guy ropes on it?

280

00:16:49,000 --> 00:16:51,000

I think that's absolutely what we should do.

281

00:16:51,000 --> 00:16:56,000

Like good mythbusters, they've brought enough rope to lasso a small country.

282

00:16:56,000 --> 00:17:02,000

Adam ties the guy wires off to a couple of cars, then measures out the firing range.

283

00:17:02,000 --> 00:17:08,000

I'm marking out 50-foot increments of how far our target should go, and it's looking pretty unreasonable.

284

00:17:08,000 --> 00:17:13,000

I don't think we'll even get the bowling ball more than 150 feet, if that.

285

00:17:13,000 --> 00:17:17,000

And by the time he reaches 450 feet, he's even less optimistic.

286

00:17:17,000 --> 00:17:25,000

The myth is that these people slingshotting themselves over the border are traveling another 150 feet that way.

287

00:17:25,000 --> 00:17:28,000

300 yards, that's 600 feet. Look, look what's out there.

288

00:17:30,000 --> 00:17:32,000

I don't think so.

289

00:17:32,000 --> 00:17:37,000

One, two, three, two, one, let's go!

290

00:17:39,000 --> 00:17:47,000

To get an idea of just how far that is, here's human cannonball David Smith Jr. cannonballing 170 feet.

291

00:17:47,000 --> 00:17:54,000

It's a spectacular flight, but it's not even one-third of the distance claimed in the border slingshot myth.

292

00:17:54,000 --> 00:17:57,000

It's one heck of a long shot.

293

00:17:58,000 --> 00:18:06,000

Just to make sure that the goal posts can take the strain, they decide to kick things off with a lesser weight.

294

00:18:06,000 --> 00:18:09,000

One inch surgical tubing with a two-kilo ball.

295

00:18:09,000 --> 00:18:12,000

Ten feet on each side.

296

00:18:12,000 --> 00:18:17,000

And three, two, one.

297

00:18:21,000 --> 00:18:24,000

The slingshot becomes a boomerang.

298

00:18:27,000 --> 00:18:37,000

That was the scariest thing I've ever done on this show. That was terrifying.

299

00:18:37,000 --> 00:18:40,000

Terror. It's hilarious.

300

00:18:42,000 --> 00:18:44,000

So what went wrong?

301

00:18:44,000 --> 00:18:46,000

The hazards of giant slingshot making.

302

00:18:46,000 --> 00:18:53,000

Jamie added a little extra chain to his ball basket so we could hopefully keep the balls in and not have them fall out.

303

00:18:53,000 --> 00:18:59,000

And that extra piece of chain seems to have held it in because that ball went up and it came right back down.

304

00:19:02,000 --> 00:19:03,000

That was scary.

305

00:19:03,000 --> 00:19:06,000

One near-death experience per myth is about enough.

306

00:19:06,000 --> 00:19:08,000

Is this a recipe for disaster or what?

307

00:19:08,000 --> 00:19:16,000

So they decide to relaunch with an automatic firing mechanism, complete with safety pin and remote triggering device.

308

00:19:16,000 --> 00:19:22,000

Okay, so this is the two-kilo ball with ten feet of one inch surgical tubing. Second try.

309

00:19:22,000 --> 00:19:25,000

Three, two, one.

310

00:19:26,000 --> 00:19:28,000

We have liftoff.

311

00:19:28,000 --> 00:19:29,000

Damn.

312

00:19:29,000 --> 00:19:32,000

I'll be darned that one a lot farther than I thought it would.

313

00:19:36,000 --> 00:19:37,000

Well, I can see where it landed.

314

00:19:37,000 --> 00:19:39,000

Two hundred and five feet.

315

00:19:39,000 --> 00:19:42,000

So what's next? Do we go up to the four-kilo?

316

00:19:42,000 --> 00:19:45,000

I think it's time to double up the bungee and go for the bowling ball.

317

00:19:45,000 --> 00:19:49,000

For quick release, they weave a makeshift basket out of line.

318

00:19:49,000 --> 00:19:50,000

Look at that.

319

00:19:50,000 --> 00:19:52,000

Huh? Huh?

320

00:19:52,000 --> 00:19:54,000

What a masterpiece.

321

00:19:54,000 --> 00:19:56,000

We're working on table doilies next.

322

00:19:56,000 --> 00:19:59,000

So once more into the breach.

323

00:19:59,000 --> 00:20:03,000

And three, two, one.

324

00:20:03,000 --> 00:20:04,000

Whoa.

325

00:20:04,000 --> 00:20:05,000

Whoa.

326

00:20:05,000 --> 00:20:06,000

All right.

327

00:20:11,000 --> 00:20:13,000

That would be bad.

328

00:20:13,000 --> 00:20:15,000

The Boomerang's back.

329

00:20:15,000 --> 00:20:18,000

And this time it's taken out the goalcams.

330

00:20:21,000 --> 00:20:24,000

Shockingly, that didn't work.

331

00:20:26,000 --> 00:20:28,000

I can't imagine why.

332

00:20:28,000 --> 00:20:34,000

The crew comes to the rescue with a camera bag that could have been custom made for slingshotting.

333

00:20:34,000 --> 00:20:37,000

The goalposts, on the other hand, clearly weren't.

334

00:20:37,000 --> 00:20:39,000

And they're bent out of shape.

335

00:20:39,000 --> 00:20:45,000

With the slingshot on its last legs, can they get the launch they need to complete the testing?

336

00:20:45,000 --> 00:20:46,000

All right.

337

00:20:46,000 --> 00:20:50,000

Ready in three, two, one.

338

00:20:55,000 --> 00:20:57,000

Well, Adam, I'd say that worked pretty well.

339

00:20:57,000 --> 00:20:58,000

I think it did.

340

00:20:58,000 --> 00:21:01,000

Right at the last success.

341

00:21:01,000 --> 00:21:04,000

Jamie, that's 77 feet.

342

00:21:04,000 --> 00:21:11,000

For the first time, we're starting to get some activity with this projectile that is like what we'll expect to see with a full-sized human.

343

00:21:11,000 --> 00:21:16,000

We launched an eight kilogram projectile around 70 feet or so.

344

00:21:16,000 --> 00:21:19,000

And that's about a tenth of a human.

345

00:21:19,000 --> 00:21:22,000

We need to be able to launch it farther than 70 feet.

346

00:21:22,000 --> 00:21:25,000

But at least we're starting to get into that world.

347

00:21:28,000 --> 00:21:34,000

Well, I don't know about you, but I'm getting kind of tired of all this test firing of these projectiles.

348

00:21:34,000 --> 00:21:36,000

I think we've crunched the numbers enough.

349

00:21:36,000 --> 00:21:37,000

It's time to build the real thing.

350

00:21:37,000 --> 00:21:45,000

You know, from just a cost standpoint, let alone a physics standpoint, tossing him 200 yards, I think, is completely ridiculous.

351

00:21:45,000 --> 00:21:50,000

We're talking something like 12,000 pounds of pulling force to throw him that distance.

352

00:21:50,000 --> 00:21:56,000

I reckon we ought to shoot for the world record for a human cannonball, which is about 200 feet.

353

00:21:56,000 --> 00:22:03,000

By my math, that would give us about 40 bands of one inch surgical tubing, 10 feet long, 20 on each side,

354

00:22:03,000 --> 00:22:07,000

about a final pulling force of 4,000 pounds, which seems easily doable.

355

00:22:08,000 --> 00:22:11,000

The plan for the final rig is elegantly simple.

356

00:22:11,000 --> 00:22:15,000

Two radio towers will form the V-shaped yoke.

357

00:22:15,000 --> 00:22:18,000

An array of guy wires will hold them in place.

358

00:22:18,000 --> 00:22:24,000

And the sling itself will comprise 40 10-foot lengths of one inch surgical tubing.

359

00:22:24,000 --> 00:22:26,000

Seems straightforward enough.

360

00:22:26,000 --> 00:22:29,000

Time to build the world's biggest slingshot.

361

00:22:29,000 --> 00:22:31,000

Two, three, four, five, six.

362

00:22:31,000 --> 00:22:37,000

First, the radio towers, which they've purchased for just \$700, must be assembled.

363

00:22:37,000 --> 00:22:42,000

Meanwhile, Jamie is busy building a man-sized firing sling.

364

00:22:42,000 --> 00:22:47,000

I guess I'm about the same size as Buster, so this seems about right to me.

365

00:22:47,000 --> 00:22:49,000

We don't want to make it too small.

366

00:22:49,000 --> 00:22:53,000

The whole contraption must be light, but extremely strong.

367

00:22:53,000 --> 00:22:57,000

Unfortunately, humans are big, heavy things, usually.

368

00:22:57,000 --> 00:23:05,000

And so when you're using them as projectiles, it takes a lot of energy, and it's actually a heck of a lot of work.

369

00:23:05,000 --> 00:23:12,000

Luckily, Jamie's strict recycling policy saves MythMusters a cool five bucks in canvas.

370

00:23:12,000 --> 00:23:14,000

Pretty bloody close.

371

00:23:14,000 --> 00:23:22,000

The canvas is mainly to keep these cords neat, because things tend to get tangled and hooked.

372

00:23:22,000 --> 00:23:26,000

So it's not going to be structural, you're just going to glue it on.

373

00:23:26,000 --> 00:23:31,000

Meanwhile, Adam's fulfilling the fooling around clause in his contract.

374

00:23:31,000 --> 00:23:39,000

Oh, my guts fell off! Oh, my guts all fell off!

375

00:23:39,000 --> 00:23:43,000

This is what you look like after sex tuppled bypass surgery.

376

00:23:44,000 --> 00:23:50,000

I haven't done anything sad already.

377

00:23:50,000 --> 00:23:57,000

And with that out of his system, they tie up the build by attaching the lengths of surgical rubber to the sling.

378

00:23:57,000 --> 00:24:02,000

Tomorrow is the day of reckoning for these border-busting dummies.

379

00:24:02,000 --> 00:24:04,000

Up next...

380

00:24:04,000 --> 00:24:06,000

Out in the sun, making a big slingshot.

381

00:24:06,000 --> 00:24:09,000

Adam and Jamie erect a very big rig.

382

00:24:09,000 --> 00:24:12,000

I think what we've got here is a thing.

383

00:24:12,000 --> 00:24:14,000

Looks like a big ass slingshot to me.

384

00:24:14,000 --> 00:24:17,000

But does it spell V for victory?

385

00:24:17,000 --> 00:24:23,000

Buster's going for a pretty exciting ride tomorrow, I think.

386

00:24:23,000 --> 00:24:26,000

Remember, don't try this at home.

387

00:24:26,000 --> 00:24:32,000

We're what you call experts.

388

00:24:32,000 --> 00:24:38,000

The MythMusters arrive at a waterside wasteland, where they'll erect their giant slingshot

389

00:24:38,000 --> 00:24:44,000

and try to hurl a crash test dummy 200 yards over an imaginary border.

390

00:24:44,000 --> 00:24:47,000

So how far is the 200 yard mark for over the border?

391

00:24:47,000 --> 00:24:51,000

Well, you see those white posts that are way off in the distance there?

392

00:24:51,000 --> 00:24:53,000

That is about 200 yards.

393

00:24:53,000 --> 00:24:57,000

Wow, there's no way he's going to make it that far.

394

00:24:57,000 --> 00:24:59,000

Well, we can try.

395

00:24:59,000 --> 00:25:02,000

Ladies and gentlemen, this is a magnificent thing.

396

00:25:02,000 --> 00:25:05,000

They've spent three days testing with small-scale rigs,

397

00:25:05,000 --> 00:25:12,000

and they're backing a surgical rubber sling to give them their longest shot.

398

00:25:12,000 --> 00:25:19,000

The plan is to erect one Goliath of a Yoke using two radio masts,

399

00:25:19,000 --> 00:25:23,000

each one anchored with three guy wires.

400

00:25:23,000 --> 00:25:25,000

Yeah.

401

00:25:25,000 --> 00:25:33,000

Jamie gets all of his strength from experiments he did with gamma rays back in the 70s.

402

00:25:33,000 --> 00:25:40,000

They've hired long-reached gradalls to raise the masts, which are 45 feet long.

403

00:25:40,000 --> 00:25:42,000

Just a little bit farther forward.

404

00:25:42,000 --> 00:25:45,000

Stop! That's pretty much exactly right.

405

00:25:45,000 --> 00:25:48,000

Now the sun is making a big slingshot.

406

00:25:48,000 --> 00:25:51,000

Well, what the hell is this?

407

00:25:51,000 --> 00:25:53,000

It's way heck up there.

408

00:25:53,000 --> 00:26:01,000

I have a feeling that we weren't exaggerating when we said this will be the world's largest slingshot.

409

00:26:01,000 --> 00:26:03,000

Now for the tricky bit.

410

00:26:03,000 --> 00:26:06,000

Positioning the guy wires so that they support the mast

411

00:26:06,000 --> 00:26:10,000

without getting in the way of the slingshot's trajectory.

412

00:26:10,000 --> 00:26:15,000

The only solution is to cross the two guy wires in front of the slingshot.

413

00:26:15,000 --> 00:26:19,000

They hope that Buster will fly over the wires and over the border,

414

00:26:19,000 --> 00:26:22,000

but there's no guarantee of either.

415

00:26:22,000 --> 00:26:28,000

It's kind of risky, though, because if Buster doesn't go as far or as fast as we think he's going to go,

416

00:26:28,000 --> 00:26:32,000

he's going to land on the guy wires and this whole rig could take a tumble.

417

00:26:32,000 --> 00:26:36,000

It's not a perfect solution, but it's the only one they've got,

418

00:26:36,000 --> 00:26:40,000

so they reposition the forward guy wires and check their angles.

419

00:26:40,000 --> 00:26:43,000

I think it's beautiful. I think the cross is nice and far away.

420

00:26:43,000 --> 00:26:48,000

The point under the cable is still about 25 feet. We're going to fly at least 25 feet.

421

00:26:48,000 --> 00:26:50,000

Okay, let's do the other one, huh?

422

00:26:50,000 --> 00:26:53,000

The first tower was the tricky one.

423

00:26:53,000 --> 00:26:57,000

Now they've got a system in place, they nail the second one with no trouble at all.

424

00:26:57,000 --> 00:27:00,000

That's it.

425

00:27:00,000 --> 00:27:02,000

Alright then, last cable.

426

00:27:02,000 --> 00:27:09,000

The last cable is tensioned up and there's the giant Y of the world's biggest slingshot yoke.

427

00:27:09,000 --> 00:27:11,000

Wow.

428

00:27:11,000 --> 00:27:17,000

Now that it's up, the scale of the border slingshot myth starts to hit home.

429

00:27:17,000 --> 00:27:23,000

A structure like this is not a very mobile structure.

430

00:27:23,000 --> 00:27:27,000

This is not something you could pull up with on a flatbed, launch someone,

431

00:27:27,000 --> 00:27:30,000

and then be gone before the border patrol could catch you.

432

00:27:30,000 --> 00:27:35,000

Even if the border guards somehow failed to notice a major piece of construction

433

00:27:35,000 --> 00:27:39,000

taking place on their watch and the immigrants flying overhead,

434

00:27:39,000 --> 00:27:43,000

there's still the issue of the landing on the other side.

435

00:27:43,000 --> 00:27:47,000

We may make our best guess as to where this mattress might go,

436

00:27:47,000 --> 00:27:50,000

and I guarantee you we're going to miss it.

437

00:27:50,000 --> 00:27:54,000

The guys swing the sling into place and admire their handiwork.

438

00:27:54,000 --> 00:27:57,000

I think what we've got here is a thing.

439

00:27:57,000 --> 00:27:59,000

It's like a big ass slingshot to me.

440

00:27:59,000 --> 00:28:02,000

There's just one more problem to solve.

441

00:28:02,000 --> 00:28:06,000

We'll have to think a little bit about how Buster's going to get held in here.

442

00:28:06,000 --> 00:28:08,000

How to hold him in there.

443

00:28:08,000 --> 00:28:10,000

To keep him falling down that way.

444

00:28:10,000 --> 00:28:11,000

Right.

445

00:28:11,000 --> 00:28:12,000

It's something to think about.

446

00:28:12,000 --> 00:28:13,000

It's got to let him go.

447

00:28:13,000 --> 00:28:14,000

I know.

448

00:28:14,000 --> 00:28:16,000

But you know what I'm talking about.

449

00:28:16,000 --> 00:28:18,000

I know what you're talking about, man.

450

00:28:18,000 --> 00:28:20,000

I'm picking up what you're putting down.

451

00:28:20,000 --> 00:28:23,000

They'll work out how to seat Buster tomorrow

452

00:28:23,000 --> 00:28:27,000

when they attempt the horizontal bungee across the border.

453

00:28:27,000 --> 00:28:31,000

It's been a long day, so watch the verdict.

454

00:28:31,000 --> 00:28:32,000

This is full on.

455

00:28:32,000 --> 00:28:36,000

You know, this thing with the radio towers and everything like that.

456

00:28:36,000 --> 00:28:40,000

I think, I don't think anybody else has ever done anything quite like this.

457

00:28:40,000 --> 00:28:43,000

Buster's going for a pretty exciting ride tomorrow, I think.

458

00:28:43,000 --> 00:28:44,000

After the break.

459

00:28:44,000 --> 00:28:45,000

You're ouch.

460

00:28:45,000 --> 00:28:46,000

You're ouch.

461

00:28:46,000 --> 00:28:47,000

I'm crazy.

462

00:28:47,000 --> 00:28:50,000

The build team arrives to stake out the border.

463

00:28:50,000 --> 00:28:53,000

I think that's pretty far to be slinging a human being.

464

00:28:53,000 --> 00:28:58,000

And the sling shot snaps into action with alarming results.

465

00:29:06,000 --> 00:29:09,000

I got to establish that this is Canada.

466

00:29:09,000 --> 00:29:12,000

So I'm going to throw a Canadian flag up here.

467

00:29:12,000 --> 00:29:15,000

It's 7 a.m. on the day of the big launch.

468

00:29:15,000 --> 00:29:20,000

And the build team arrives to stake out an imaginary U.S.-Canadian border.

469

00:29:20,000 --> 00:29:21,000

Oh, yeah.

470

00:29:21,000 --> 00:29:23,000

This will keep them out.

471

00:29:23,000 --> 00:29:25,000

We're at 200 feet.

472

00:29:25,000 --> 00:29:26,000

250.

473

00:29:26,000 --> 00:29:31,000

According to the myth, giant sling shots are hurling illegal immigrants

474

00:29:31,000 --> 00:29:36,000

200 yards across the border and into the United States.

475

00:29:36,000 --> 00:29:38,000

That's 200 yards.

476

00:29:38,000 --> 00:29:39,000

That's wide as the border.

477

00:29:39,000 --> 00:29:40,000

200 yards.

478

00:29:40,000 --> 00:29:42,000

That's pretty far.

479

00:29:42,000 --> 00:29:45,000

I doubt it's going to make it.

480

00:29:46,000 --> 00:29:49,000

I think that's pretty far to be slinging a human being.

481

00:29:49,000 --> 00:29:52,000

200 yards to get over the border.

482

00:29:52,000 --> 00:29:54,000

I think this myth might be slightly absurd.

483

00:29:54,000 --> 00:29:57,000

But you know those Canadians, they're kind of crafty.

484

00:29:57,000 --> 00:30:01,000

But are they crafty enough to fly 200 yards and land on a mattress?

485

00:30:01,000 --> 00:30:02,000

ouch.

486

00:30:02,000 --> 00:30:04,000

It's one heck of a long shot, eh?

487

00:30:04,000 --> 00:30:05,000

Run, run.

488

00:30:05,000 --> 00:30:06,000

You're ouch.

489

00:30:06,000 --> 00:30:07,000

You're ouch.

490

00:30:07,000 --> 00:30:08,000

I'm crazy.

491

00:30:08,000 --> 00:30:12,000

The consensus is that the border is beyond reach, dead or alive.

492

00:30:12,000 --> 00:30:16,000

So the mythbusters have lowered the bar for today's launch.

493

00:30:16,000 --> 00:30:17,000

All right.

494

00:30:17,000 --> 00:30:21,000

What we got here is the mark for the world record of human cannonball.

495

00:30:21,000 --> 00:30:25,000

I don't think we're even going to come close to this mark.

496

00:30:25,000 --> 00:30:29,000

My feeling is that it probably won't even reach to the first tie-down of the sling shot.

497

00:30:29,000 --> 00:30:35,000

The world record target is 201 feet, set in 2002 by David Smith Sr.

498

00:30:36,000 --> 00:30:38,000

Tari's not holding his breath.

499

00:30:38,000 --> 00:30:43,000

The last time we tried a fire buster on it, a ballistic trajectory was with the boom lift catapult.

500

00:30:43,000 --> 00:30:46,000

And you know, we thought we were going to get like 200 feet.

501

00:30:46,000 --> 00:30:47,000

We didn't even come close.

502

00:30:47,000 --> 00:30:49,000

I think it went like 30 feet.

503

00:30:49,000 --> 00:30:51,000

3, 2, 1.

504

00:30:51,000 --> 00:30:52,000

Run.

505

00:31:02,000 --> 00:31:07,000

In fact, the boom lift catapult tossed him a respectable 90 feet.

506

00:31:07,000 --> 00:31:10,000

If you include the 60 feet of boom.

507

00:31:11,000 --> 00:31:16,000

In raccoon rocket, 10 pounds of black powder blasted him 80 feet.

508

00:31:17,000 --> 00:31:19,000

Oh my God.

509

00:31:19,000 --> 00:31:25,000

And in the myth of the Ming dynasty astronaut, well, he just got burnt to a cinder.

510

00:31:26,000 --> 00:31:29,000

Come to think of it, Buster could do with a launch break.

511

00:31:31,000 --> 00:31:34,000

Maybe it's time to give a relative rookie a go.

512

00:31:34,000 --> 00:31:36,000

She's a little worse for wear.

513

00:31:36,000 --> 00:31:41,000

When it comes to handling children, Jamie's old school.

514

00:31:42,000 --> 00:31:44,000

The kid only weighs 55 pounds.

515

00:31:44,000 --> 00:31:48,000

So if she doesn't launch, the myth is totally busted.

516

00:31:49,000 --> 00:31:55,000

For safety reasons, the dummy will stay stationary while the surgical rubber is stretched upwards

517

00:31:55,000 --> 00:31:58,000

towards the top of the towers using grade A's.

518

00:31:58,000 --> 00:32:05,000

For full power, the sling must have 4,000 pounds of tension, a stretch of up to 50 feet.

519

00:32:06,000 --> 00:32:11,000

Any further and the rubber could snap with painful results.

520

00:32:11,000 --> 00:32:17,000

Okay, you drivers are going to have to know to control yourself to keep it balanced.

521

00:32:17,000 --> 00:32:21,000

If you see it start to ship, you know, compensate.

522

00:32:21,000 --> 00:32:23,000

All right, is that clear?

523

00:32:23,000 --> 00:32:26,000

Brant and Tori are the pullback pilots.

524

00:32:26,000 --> 00:32:28,000

All right, I'm pulling the safety pin.

525

00:32:28,000 --> 00:32:31,000

The days of testing and building are over.

526

00:32:31,000 --> 00:32:33,000

This is it.

527

00:32:33,000 --> 00:32:36,000

Okay, everybody's in position.

528

00:32:36,000 --> 00:32:38,000

Radles, go ahead and start tensioning over.

529

00:32:38,000 --> 00:32:42,000

The tension mounts towards the 4,000 pound mark.

530

00:32:42,000 --> 00:32:44,000

Okay, you guys are good.

531

00:32:44,000 --> 00:32:51,000

At release, the dummy will pull between 6 and 9 G's about as much as a space shuttle astronaut.

532

00:32:51,000 --> 00:32:53,000

Wow.

533

00:32:53,000 --> 00:32:56,000

Let Tori catch up a little bit more, Grant.

534

00:32:56,000 --> 00:32:59,000

Then, disaster strikes.

535

00:32:59,000 --> 00:33:01,000

Stop, all stop.

536

00:33:01,000 --> 00:33:04,000

Houston, we have a problem.

537

00:33:04,000 --> 00:33:11,000

A guy wire has slipped, but Jamie makes a quick appraisal and decides not to abort.

538

00:33:12,000 --> 00:33:15,000

I'm going to suggest that we fire it at this point.

539

00:33:15,000 --> 00:33:19,000

I am firing in three, two, one.

540

00:33:19,000 --> 00:33:21,000

Blast off.

541

00:33:29,000 --> 00:33:31,000

What happened? What was our shift?

542

00:33:31,000 --> 00:33:36,000

While Adam and Jamie investigate the problem, Kary's been measuring the throw.

543

00:33:36,000 --> 00:33:37,000

Jamie?

544

00:33:37,000 --> 00:33:38,000

Yes.

545

00:33:38,000 --> 00:33:40,000

Do you remember my prediction for how far she would fly?

546

00:33:40,000 --> 00:33:42,000

It was 132 feet.

547

00:33:42,000 --> 00:33:43,000

Guess how far she flew?

548

00:33:43,000 --> 00:33:44,000

133 feet.

549

00:33:44,000 --> 00:33:46,000

132 feet.

550

00:33:46,000 --> 00:33:47,000

Ah, well, good guess.

551

00:33:47,000 --> 00:33:49,000

The kids have got it.

552

00:33:49,000 --> 00:33:52,000

But how about the slingshot?

553

00:33:52,000 --> 00:33:53,000

I think we can fix the rig.

554

00:33:53,000 --> 00:33:57,000

We've got to retension this main cable that seemed to have stretched a bit.

555

00:33:57,000 --> 00:34:01,000

And we should be good to fire again, not too long from now.

556

00:34:01,000 --> 00:34:06,000

They retension the loose cable and decide to take out some additional insurance.

557

00:34:06,000 --> 00:34:09,000

I am adding a pair of guy wires.

558

00:34:09,000 --> 00:34:14,000

To these towers just to add an extra level of support.

559

00:34:14,000 --> 00:34:19,000

Meanwhile, Kary and Grant prepare Suzy the crash test dummy for launch.

560

00:34:19,000 --> 00:34:22,000

I mean, clearly she's not had enough yoga.

561

00:34:22,000 --> 00:34:26,000

They're working on the theory that she'll fly further in the fetal position.

562

00:34:26,000 --> 00:34:28,000

How's that look?

563

00:34:28,000 --> 00:34:32,000

Painful, but that is a ball.

564

00:34:32,000 --> 00:34:38,000

They pretension the sling into the loading position, then place the 130-pound Suzy aboard.

565

00:34:38,000 --> 00:34:39,000

Oh, yeah.

566

00:34:39,000 --> 00:34:40,000

She's in.

567

00:34:40,000 --> 00:34:41,000

She's in.

568

00:34:41,000 --> 00:34:42,000

That's it.

569

00:34:42,000 --> 00:34:46,000

If you've ever flown economy, you know just how Suzy's feeling.

570

00:34:46,000 --> 00:34:50,000

But it's all systems go for a second shot at the world record.

571

00:34:50,000 --> 00:34:52,000

Okay, I'm pulling the pin.

572

00:34:52,000 --> 00:34:54,000

Guys, go ahead and start up.

573

00:34:54,000 --> 00:34:57,000

The Great All slowly stretch up the surgical rubber.

574

00:34:57,000 --> 00:34:59,000

Looking good.

575

00:34:59,000 --> 00:35:01,000

Adam, get ready to fire.

576

00:35:01,000 --> 00:35:02,000

Go ahead.

577

00:35:02,000 --> 00:35:03,000

Watch that.

578

00:35:03,000 --> 00:35:05,000

Okay, I recommend to fire.

579

00:35:05,000 --> 00:35:07,000

Go, Adam.

580

00:35:07,000 --> 00:35:16,000

Five, four, three, two, one.

581

00:35:16,000 --> 00:35:19,000

As Jamie would say, whoops.

582

00:35:19,000 --> 00:35:22,000

Well, that was a familiar result.

583

00:35:22,000 --> 00:35:24,000

So what went wrong this time?

584

00:35:24,000 --> 00:35:27,000

What happened is the same thing that happened with our bowling ball.

585

00:35:27,000 --> 00:35:32,000

The sling is actually rotating around, holding on to the dummy and slinging it back.

586

00:35:32,000 --> 00:35:35,000

How we solve that, I'm not exactly sure.

587

00:35:35,000 --> 00:35:40,000

We put almost absolute full tension on the rig this last run.

588

00:35:40,000 --> 00:35:44,000

And the dummy looked like she was going pretty awful fast.

589

00:35:44,000 --> 00:35:50,000

I think if we can manage to release her properly, we'll see what this rig is capable of.

590

00:35:50,000 --> 00:35:56,000

Adam thinks that taking up some of the seat slack might help to release the dummy.

591

00:35:56,000 --> 00:35:59,000

You could almost try not around that.

592

00:35:59,000 --> 00:36:00,000

Okay.

593

00:36:00,000 --> 00:36:01,000

Yeah.

594

00:36:01,000 --> 00:36:02,000

All right.

595

00:36:02,000 --> 00:36:04,000

We'll also try seating her sideways.

596

00:36:04,000 --> 00:36:07,000

Yeah, I see what you're doing, Tori, and I like that.

597

00:36:07,000 --> 00:36:09,000

Okay, so everybody's in position.

598

00:36:09,000 --> 00:36:11,000

Go ahead and tension.

599

00:36:11,000 --> 00:36:13,000

Will it be three times a charm?

600

00:36:13,000 --> 00:36:17,000

Okay, Tori, you've got about just a few feet.

601

00:36:17,000 --> 00:36:25,000

That was the blue rope that broke.

602

00:36:25,000 --> 00:36:27,000

Susie's having a fight from hell.

603

00:36:27,000 --> 00:36:35,000

The blue rope that was attached to Tori's great-alls snapped before the sling even reached maximum tension.

604

00:36:35,000 --> 00:36:39,000

Well, it looks like our rig kind of broke.

605

00:36:39,000 --> 00:36:47,000

One of our blue ropes that we were tensioning the rig with, we're checking on the braking strength right now.

606

00:36:47,000 --> 00:36:52,000

It broke, so apparently we exceeded its braking strength.

607

00:36:52,000 --> 00:36:59,000

The day is wearing on, and the Mythbusters family of would-be immigrants are still stuck on Canadian soil.

608

00:36:59,000 --> 00:37:10,000

I'm not sure we were ever making our way the full 200 yards into the United States, but really, we can't finish this day without some kind of launch.

609

00:37:10,000 --> 00:37:15,000

Down but never out, the Mythbusters get going on another round of repairs.

610

00:37:15,000 --> 00:37:17,000

In and out, nobody gets hurt.

611

00:37:17,000 --> 00:37:21,000

Susie takes her seat for her third ride.

612

00:37:21,000 --> 00:37:24,000

In about five minutes, I want to be going.

613

00:37:24,000 --> 00:37:27,000

Seconds out, round three.

614

00:37:27,000 --> 00:37:30,000

Okay, go ahead and start the tension.

615

00:37:30,000 --> 00:37:35,000

Tensions the word. Another failure now, and this myth's in trouble.

616

00:37:35,000 --> 00:37:39,000

Adam, I want you to do the count quick once we get into position.

617

00:37:39,000 --> 00:37:43,000

Okay, stop, Grant. Fire it will.

618

00:37:43,000 --> 00:37:48,000

I am firing in three, two, one.

619

00:37:51,000 --> 00:38:07,000

We still didn't really get a good launch. At least it wasn't a, like, throwback.

620

00:38:07,000 --> 00:38:14,000

The high-speed camera shows that Susie slipped out of her sling, so she didn't receive all the available thrust.

621

00:38:14,000 --> 00:38:18,000

128 feet, I'm afraid she's still a Canadian.

622

00:38:18,000 --> 00:38:21,000

It's all about the motor crossing, that's what it's all about.

623

00:38:21,000 --> 00:38:24,000

Coming up. Let's go!

624

00:38:24,000 --> 00:38:29,000

The Mythbusters pull out the stops to fling one final sling.

625

00:38:29,000 --> 00:38:32,000

Okay, go ahead and tension.

626

00:38:32,000 --> 00:38:37,000

Stay tuned as they shoot for a world record with a human projectile.

627

00:38:37,000 --> 00:38:41,000

Three, two, one.

628

00:38:44,000 --> 00:38:47,000

Did we get into the border?

629

00:38:49,000 --> 00:38:54,000

Time is running out for the Mythbusters.

630

00:38:54,000 --> 00:39:00,000

Engineering problems have beset their super-sized slingshot.

631

00:39:05,000 --> 00:39:12,000

At the US border remains unbreached. There's only enough daylight left for one final launch.

632

00:39:12,000 --> 00:39:17,000

Busters understudy. Rescue Randy takes the hot seat.

633

00:39:18,000 --> 00:39:25,000

He's going to be shooting for the world human cannonball record of 201 feet.

634

00:39:25,000 --> 00:39:30,000

Jamie's made a last-minute adjustment to the sling arrangement.

635

00:39:30,000 --> 00:39:32,000

Adam's impressed.

636

00:39:32,000 --> 00:39:34,000

Lift off!

637

00:39:34,000 --> 00:39:39,000

Jamie, it looks a lot more diabolical now.

638

00:39:39,000 --> 00:39:41,000

I don't know, you might have done it.

639

00:39:41,000 --> 00:39:47,000

Not one to be left out, Adam makes his own modification to the launch seat, so that the dummy sits higher up.

640

00:39:47,000 --> 00:39:50,000

Is the center of bouncer's about here? I want it to be here.

641

00:39:50,000 --> 00:39:53,000

That was that string, this is that string.

642

00:39:53,000 --> 00:39:55,000

It looks high.

643

00:39:55,000 --> 00:39:58,000

I know it looks high, but he was real low last time.

644

00:39:58,000 --> 00:40:03,000

This is a classic Mythbusters scenario. We're just about to do the end thing.

645

00:40:03,000 --> 00:40:09,000

You've made a modification and I'll have made a modification, and we'll both want to take credit if it works.

646

00:40:09,000 --> 00:40:11,000

I've seen it before.

647

00:40:11,000 --> 00:40:13,000

You can take credit, Adam.

648

00:40:14,000 --> 00:40:17,000

Oh, he's a sockman.

649

00:40:17,000 --> 00:40:20,000

The center of balance is pretty much dead in the middle.

650

00:40:20,000 --> 00:40:22,000

I think this one's going to jump.

651

00:40:22,000 --> 00:40:24,000

How far?

652

00:40:24,000 --> 00:40:26,000

220 feet.

653

00:40:26,000 --> 00:40:28,000

220?

654

00:40:28,000 --> 00:40:35,000

The light is fading fast. They hurriedly pretension the sling and make a final pre-flight inspection.

655

00:40:35,000 --> 00:40:37,000

That looks pretty good.

656

00:40:37,000 --> 00:40:39,000

Let's pull the pin and do it.

657

00:40:39,000 --> 00:40:41,000

Pin is out.

658

00:40:42,000 --> 00:40:44,000

Release cable is clear.

659

00:40:44,000 --> 00:40:46,000

Okay, go ahead and tension.

660

00:40:53,000 --> 00:40:57,000

Grant and Tori slowly advance towards the edge of the dock.

661

00:40:57,000 --> 00:41:06,000

To get the 165 pound dummy past the world record marker, they'll need every inch of the 40 foot stretch.

662

00:41:06,000 --> 00:41:08,000

Grant, stop.

663

00:41:08,000 --> 00:41:10,000

Tori, keep going.

664

00:41:10,000 --> 00:41:15,000

When the sling is at maximum tension, 4,000 pounds of pressure is ready to be unleashed.

665

00:41:15,000 --> 00:41:17,000

Okay, stop.

666

00:41:17,000 --> 00:41:19,000

Fire at will.

667

00:41:19,000 --> 00:41:21,000

Three, two, one.

668

00:41:32,000 --> 00:41:35,000

Blast off. Now that's a throw.

669

00:41:39,000 --> 00:41:42,000

Did we get into the border?

670

00:41:42,000 --> 00:41:44,000

He passed it.

671

00:41:44,000 --> 00:41:46,000

Wow. He passed it.

672

00:41:46,000 --> 00:41:48,000

He wanted one more.

673

00:41:48,000 --> 00:41:50,000

That's measured.

674

00:41:50,000 --> 00:41:52,000

Nice.

675

00:41:52,000 --> 00:41:55,000

Miraculously, the dummy is still in one piece.

676

00:41:55,000 --> 00:41:58,000

You're not going to get the mattress, that's for freaking sure.

677

00:41:58,000 --> 00:42:02,000

That's a hell of a flight.

678

00:42:02,000 --> 00:42:07,000

My money says he would have gone over if we had more time to balance it.

679

00:42:07,000 --> 00:42:10,000

He would have gone over the fence, you mean.

680

00:42:10,000 --> 00:42:12,000

Yeah.

681

00:42:12,000 --> 00:42:16,000

I would reckon that he would have easily made it over the fence because we lost so much energy to this.

682

00:42:16,000 --> 00:42:18,000

Yeah.

683

00:42:18,000 --> 00:42:25,000

The high speed camera shows that Buster's stunt double still slipped out of the sling, causing him to rotate.

684

00:42:25,000 --> 00:42:28,000

But it was still quite a flight.

685

00:42:31,000 --> 00:42:34,000

You broke the world record for cannonball.

686

00:42:34,000 --> 00:42:36,000

What was our distance?

687

00:42:36,000 --> 00:42:39,000

Your distance at the first landing was 211 feet.

688

00:42:39,000 --> 00:42:41,000

Huh?

689

00:42:41,000 --> 00:42:43,000

Well, nicely done.

690

00:42:43,000 --> 00:42:45,000

I'd say that's a good job.

691

00:42:45,000 --> 00:42:47,000

That's all we can do today.

692

00:42:47,000 --> 00:42:49,000

Let's pack up and go home.

693

00:42:49,000 --> 00:42:53,000

They flung their final fling.

694

00:42:53,000 --> 00:42:56,000

It's been a myth-busting marathon.

695

00:42:58,000 --> 00:43:02,000

Which started like this and ended like this.

696

00:43:07,000 --> 00:43:10,000

A world record for a dummy at least.

697

00:43:10,000 --> 00:43:16,000

Not a bad consolation prize, but the myth of the border slingshot is busted.