

**MOTOR POWER** 

Product code:

CE401MM-A



Online theory & activities



#### What we will learn

One of the most exciting type of racing competition is the drag race! Cars which participate in these races are called dragsters and are heavily modified in order to achieve the best possible acceleration along with the highest top speed. When the lights go out, powerful engines launch the cars while roaring and shaking the ground. Rules are rather simple: the car that gets first to the finish line wins the race! Winning though, demands the perfect combination of driving skills with excellent car performance. Have you ever wondered why dragster cars are so fast? What special skills do these drivers have? Read through the pages of the booklet of "Dragster" to gain useful information and amazing facts about these racing cars. Follow the building instructions, contained in this booklet, to build your own model. Finally, take the guiz to test your newly acquired knowledge.



Wheel burning is common when a dragster launches



## History of drag racing

Ever since the invention of the motor car, drivers have been obsessed with speed. The lust for the ultimate fast ride in a short distance, led young drivers to compete with their cars proving their braveness. Such battles date back to 1950's. With increasing popularity, the sport began to take its shape a decade later. Scheduled races on double lane tracks began, while dragster cars were modified to be more powerful.

#### **Dragster races**

Traditionally, dragsters are long and narrow cars with a single seat for the driver. The rear tires are wider and larger compared to the front. Super-modified engines are used for maximum acceleration. and optimum high speed. The track length is usually around 300m and it is covered in less than 4 seconds! A race is actually made from a series of knockouts, with the winning car qualified to the next round. When only two cars are left in the race, the fastest car of the final sprint is the overall winner!





#### Skilful drivers

It may look easy to just launch a car and keep it on a straight line for a few seconds only. However, drivers need to have excellent control of the car. Due to the enormous ignition power, the car will tend to go either left or right, thus keeping the wheels straight is really hard. Moreover, the reaction time of a driver should be very fast when the start is signalled. Drivers with lightning reactions gain an initial advantage right from the start of the race!



## Did you know?

Cars which participate in the class of "Top Fuel" achieve a speed near 500 kilometres per hour! In order to stop before reaching the track lane limits, they use a parachute for breaking. The parachute is attached folded to the rear of the cars and is deployed just after the driver crosses the finish line. This is one out of many mandatory equipments that these dragsters have to carry for safety reasons.



Parachutes are used for breaking



### Speedsters - Dragster

The drivers are warming up their cars before the race begins. This will heat the tires and set the vehicles ready to race. Racing is right about to begin and the two drivers are placing their cars at the starting line. They have to wait until the amber lights



turn to green, before they launch the car! Who is going to react faster? Who has the faster car? Who will eventually hit the finish line first? Follow the building instructions and build your own dragster model. Get ready for this challenge and feel the adrenaline rush!





Fill the gaps of the following paragraph using the correct words from the box.

qualified, acceleration, dragster, driving skills, drag race, eliminated,

race contest between two cars over a ranged distance from 300m to 400m is called . The loser of the battle is ...... from the race, whereas the winner is ..... to the next knockout round A ...... is designed in order to achieve maximum ...... and high speed. Apart from a powerful machinery, ... are essential to win the battle.



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