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The Writings of Prof. Bailey
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LETTER 7/30 "Hero Steam Engine"
See jjb19

Kim, this is my model Hero steam engine.

It is constructed from a "FRUIT CAKE TIN".

These tins are made in Texas for their famous fruit cakes. You can also use a cookie can of the same size.

The lid of the tin can is nailed together with "THUMB TACKS" or small screws. These tacks are in yellow.

The lip of the fruit cake tin is then sealed with clear packing tape. This prevents steam from escaping from the seal between the lid and the bottom can.

This motor is designed to never be heated "DRY". It must always have a small amount of water or parts will melt.

You can see that the bottom of the fruit cake tin is over a "HOT PLATE".

Attached to the lid of the fruit cake tin are two "PEN CASINGS"

You simply drill two small holes and work the pen casings into place like a goal post over the fruit cake tin lid.

The pen casings are from cheap used up "BIC PENS". They are the white pen casings.

Then two "FLEXIBLE SODA STRAWS" are bent and inserted into the top of the two pen casings.

Next a horizontal pen casing with a steam hole at the center is placed between the two bent soda straws.

The bent soda straws are easy to push in and out of the two vertical pen casings or goal post pieces.

The next step after that is to place "TWO SODA BOTTLE CAPS" together. This forms a solid cylinder.

The caps can be glued with a strong plastic glue.

The soda bottle caps are now drilled through the center. The hole is the outside diameter of the horizontal pen casing.

This allows the stuck together bottle caps to spin around the horizontal pen casing with little friction.

The bottle cap cylinder is held over the steam hole in the center of the horizontal pen casing with wrapped wire.

The wrapped wire keeps the spinning bottle cap cylinder from moving off center from the steam hole drilled in the horizontal pen casing.

The bottle cap cylinder should not be too tight between the centering wire on each side.

The final step is to place "TWO BENT SODA STRAWS" onto the rim of the bottle cap cylinder. Two holes are drilled at the rim in opposition to each other to hold the bent soda straws onto the bottle cap cylinder.

The steam will now escape out of the two bent soda straws and spin the bottle cap cylinder at a high Rpm as it rides over the horizontal pen casing with the steam hole at the center.

To fill the steam engine all you have to do is pull the two bent soda straws out of the vertical or goal post pen casings.

You can then pour water from the sink into one of the vertical or goal post pen casings.

Now, replace the bent soda straw ends holding the horizontal pen casing over the fruitcake can lid, back into the two vertical or goal post pen casings.

Place the cake tin onto an electric stove or hot plate and heat the water until it becomes steam and the engine will blow steam out of its two bent soda straws and begin to spin around at high Rpm.
NEVER RUN THE STEAM ENGINE WITHOUT WATER!

Soda straws will not melt as long as steam is blowing out.

off the bottle cap cylinder at high Rpm.

This entire motor can be made of metal tubing. This places the observer at considerable risk if one of the reaction jet arms comes off during operation.

I have tested this "Plastic Hero Steam Engine" for hours and found it very safe.

Only the fruit cake tin needs to be made out of metal.

You can build this 2000 year old motor in an hour and have endless fun watching it spin.
It clearly demonstrates the principle of a steam driven reaction jet. That will help your reader to understand the more advanced cold air reaction jet motor.

GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR RESEARCH EFFORT