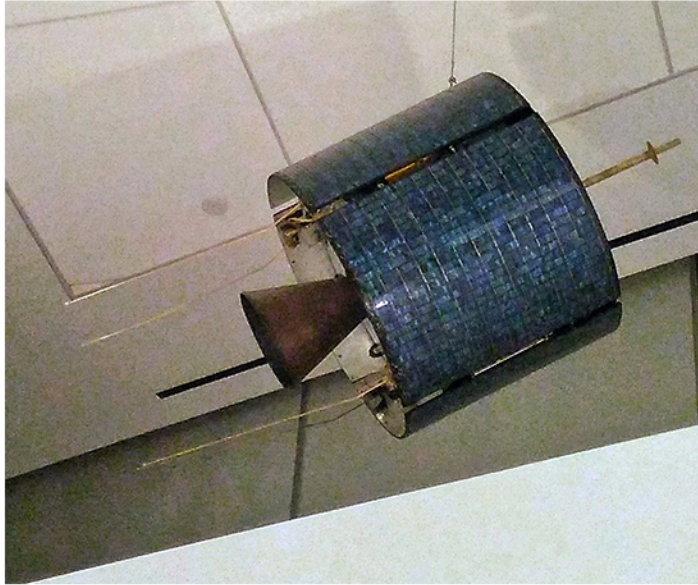


IntelSat-1 (Early Bird)



Intelsat I (International Telecommunications Satellite Consortium) nicknamed 'Early Bird' for the proverb "The early bird catches the worm" was the first commercial communications satellite to be placed in geosynchronous orbit, on April 6, 1965. It was built by the Space and Communications Group of Hughes Aircraft Company (later Hughes Space and Communications Company, and now Boeing Satellite Systems) for COMSAT, which activated it on June 28. It was based on the satellite that Hughes had built for NASA to demonstrate that communications via synchronous-orbit satellite were feasible. Its booster was a Thrust Augmented Delta (Delta D).

After a series of maneuvers, it reached its geosynchronous orbital position over the Atlantic Ocean at 28° west longitude, where it was put into service.

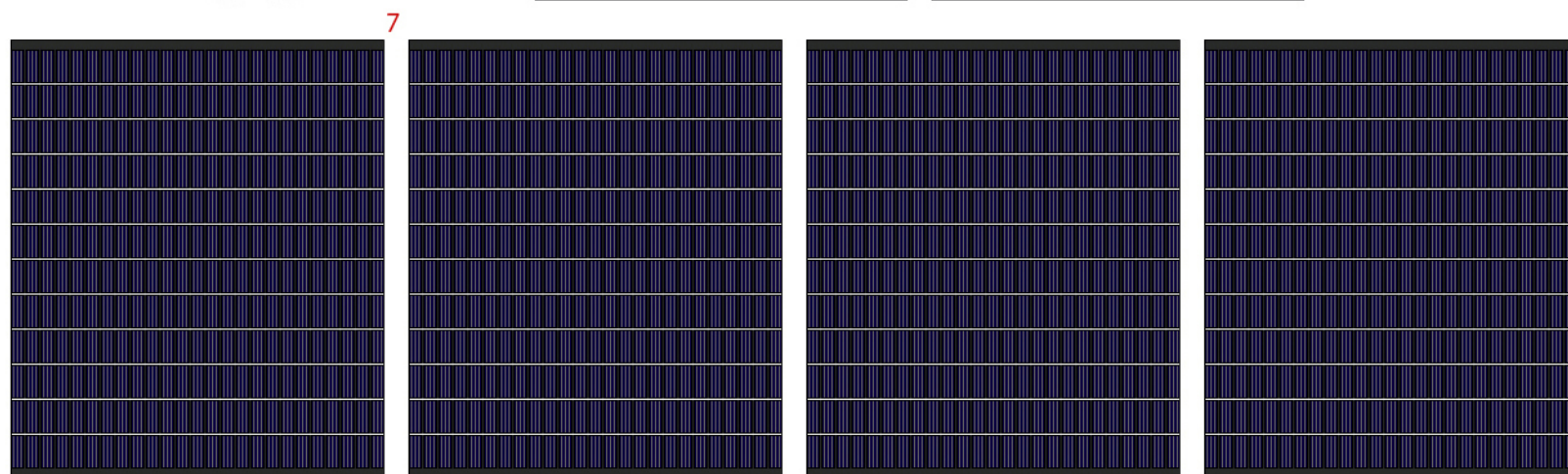
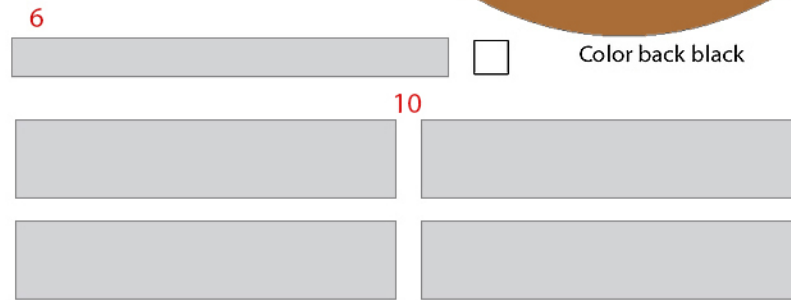
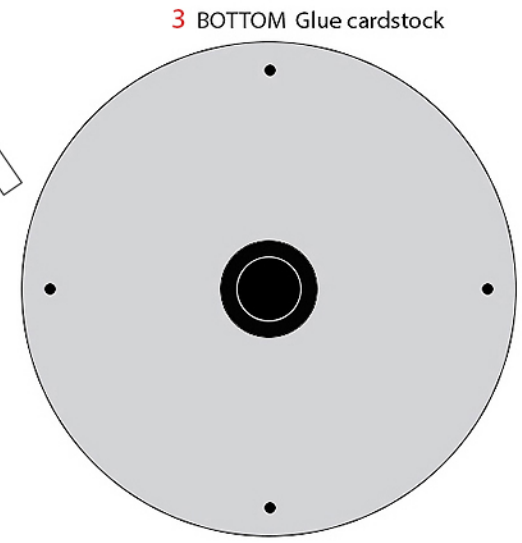
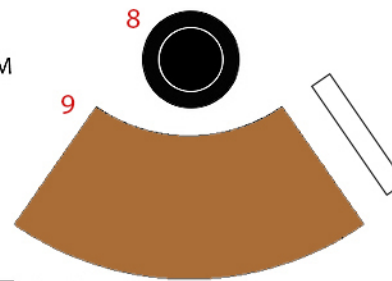
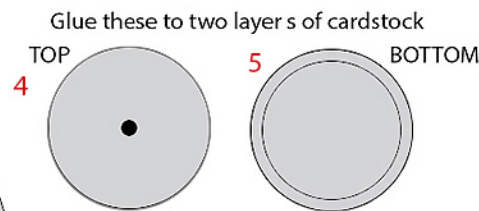
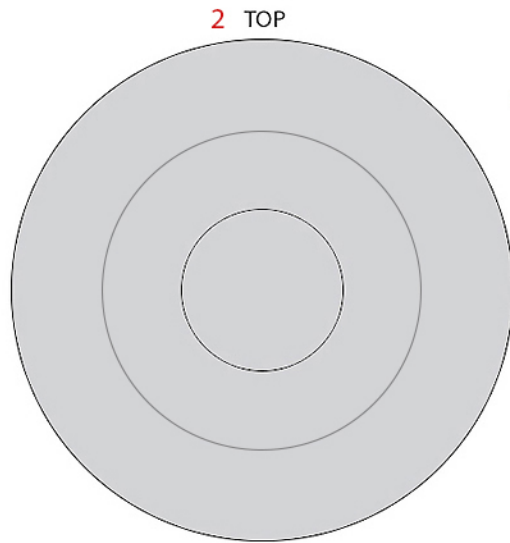
It helped provide the first live TV coverage of the Gemini 6 splashdown in December 1965. Originally slated to operate for 18 months, Early Bird was in active service for four years, being deactivated in January 1969, although it was briefly activated in June of that year to serve the Apollo 11 flight when the Atlantic Intelsat satellite failed. It was deactivated again in August 1969 and has been inactive since that time (except for a brief reactivation in 1990 to commemorate its 25th launch anniversary), although it remains in orbit.

The Early Bird satellite was the first to provide direct and nearly instantaneous contact between Europe and North America, handling television, telephone, and telefacsimile transmissions.

It was fairly small, measuring nearly 76 × 61 cm (2.5 × 2.0 feet) and weighing 34.5 kg (76 pounds).

Early Bird was one of the satellites used in the then record-breaking broadcast of 'Our World'.

IntelSat-1 (Early Bird)



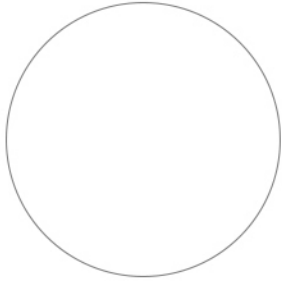
Need...
Tooth pic cut at 1 1/4 inch or 30mm long, colored light grey or silver.

4 plastic broom straws - or similar material - cut at 2 3/4 inches or 70mm long, colored light grey or silver.

IntelSat-1 (Early Bird)

Model Stand
Print at the same scale you printed the model

Glue to cardboard for foamboard



IntelSat-1 (Early Bird)

First commercial communications satellite to be placed in geosynchronous orbit, on April 6, 1965.

