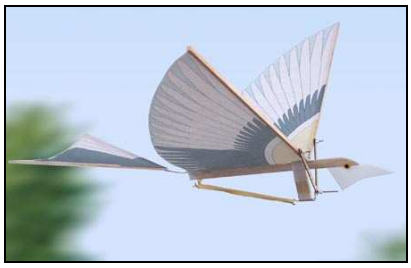
What's with that Body?

The body is the central spine of your Ornithopter. It must be strong, as it will have to handle the tension applied by the wound rubber band stretched between the crank end and the tail end of the frame, and light, as weight decreases flight time. Your sample template is a good general size and shape for a body, but it is not ideal. You must use your research to help improve the design to help your Ornithopter fly farther.



Some things to consider:

- Different lengths allow for different tensions
- Different lengths allow for different flight profiles
- Shorter bodies will handle greater tension before failure
- Longer bodies will flex to help increase force on the crank
- Body length determines the width of the wings possible
- Longer bodies may contribute to greater in-flight stability

Consider any changes you make carefully, as they could result in either an improvement in performance or a failure. If you are unsure of things, talk it over with your classmates first and ask the teacher for guidance. Carefully calculated risks could be the difference between victory and average performance.