

Stemmies Experiment Week Two: Bridges

How much weight can your bridge hold?

Materials:

- Popsicle sticks
- Toothpicks
- Straws
- Glue
- Tape
- Dowels
- Wire

Instructions:

Using the materials provided in your bag, build a bridge that can hold the as much weight as possible. You can use the materials provided as well as ones from home. The bridge should be suspended between two objects such as chairs or furniture. For weights to test your bridge, use objects like coins, exercise weights, or canned goods. Test your bridge until you are satisfied with the amount of weight your bridge can hold.

What this experiment demonstrates:

The point of this experiment is for you to find out what shapes and designs for bridges are strongest. This is important because when building actual bridges for vehicles, engineers and architects have to spend a lot of time testing and creating designs before the bridge can be constructed and used. You may find that certain shapes such as triangles can better support your bridge, compared to other shapes like circles.

Share your designs and how much weight you supported! Make sure to take pictures as you build and test your bridge and send them to chrozewski@aol.com for us to share them with Mrs. Hickey for the yearbook.

Now get building!!!