

Newspaper Construction Project

Materials: One eight inch stack of newspapers and a roll of masking tape for each group.

Time Frame: Allow 5 minutes for planning and 20-25 minutes for construction. Each team should have 5-10 minutes for demonstration.



Directions:

1. Divide the students into groups of 3-5.
2. Tell them they are to build a structure with the supplies they have been given.
3. Specify what they structure is to be like. Some suggested newspaper and tape structures are:
 - A structure that one of your group can walk through in a normal upright stance
 - A structure that will support the most books (or weight) at least 24 inches from the floor.
 - A structure that will support the full weight of one of your group members at least 18 inches from the floor.
 - A complete fashion outfit, i.e., spring outfit, fall outfit, with accessories.
4. When the time given to complete the structure is up, have each group present their structure to the class.

Debrief:

- Do the students feel they could be as creative if they did a similar project on an individual basis?
- Would it be easier or harder to construct a structure?
- Would it be harder to do if they could use only one hand? Not talk?
- Could they do a similar project if they had less time for planning? For construction?
- What did they like best about the project? Least?