



LIL' CONTRACTORS CLUB

APRIL VACATION ACTIVITY PACK

INTRODUCTION

WELCOME TO OUR LIL' CONTRACTORS CLUB!

POST PICTURES ON FACEBOOK OR INSTAGRAM
AND TAG US FOR A CHANCE TO BE FEATURED

As your first step we need to talk about how to play safely!
Head to the last page, color (if printed in black and white), cut out, and
assemble your construction hat while talking to your Lil' Contractor about two
simple rules:

No using the words "I can't do this" (We like "How can we make this work?")
No catapulting at parents, siblings, or pets.

GLOUCESTER HOURS

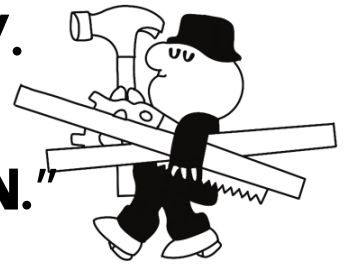
Monday - Friday 7am - 4:30pm
Saturday 8am - 4pm
Sunday CLOSED



ESSEX HOURS

Monday - Friday 7am - 4pm
Saturday 8am - 12pm
Sunday CLOSED

**“CHILDREN LEARN AS THEY PLAY.
MOST IMPORTANTLY, IN PLAY
CHILDREN LEARN HOW TO LEARN.”**
- O. FRED DONALDSON



MARSHMALLOW AND TOOTHPICK ARCHITECT

How high can you go! Using 100 marshmallows build the tallest tower possible!

Supplies: Mini Marshmallows, toothpicks, and measuring tape

Tips: Have kids count out 100 marshmallows. Draw out a plan to get started.

EGG DROP CHALLENGE

Protect a raw egg from harm! Using a variety of materials or supplies on hand, design, build, and test a contraption that will protect an egg

Supplies: Raw Eggs, recycle bin items, and any other simple supplies on hand like bubble wrap, tissue paper, or straws.

Tips: Drop from the same height each time. To reduce mess, incorporate zip top bags into the design process.

BUILD A PAPER BRIDGE

Span that gap with a bridge building challenge! Set up two stacks of books and challenge the kids to build a bridge that spans the gap out of paper! Test the bridge with the weight of pennies!

Supplies: Computer paper (dig out the recycling bin), tape, pennies, and two stacks of books the same height..

Tips: Create a gap using two stacks of books that the bridge will need to span. Test the strength of the paper bridges by adding pennies to it. You can also compare other bridge building materials such as tin foil, wax paper, construction paper, or card stock!

CATAPULT DESIGN CHALLENGE

How far can you launch something with a homemade popsicle stick catapult.

Supplies: Popsicle sticks, rubber bands, bottle cap, glue or sticky dots, spoons, tubes, items to launch.

Hint: Talk about which items you think will go the furthest and why.

BUILD AN UNSINKABLE BOAT

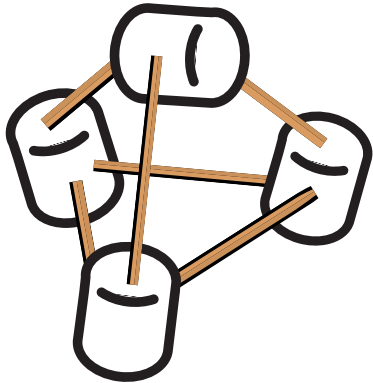
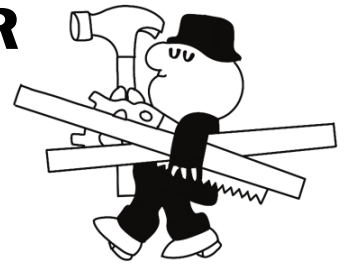
Build a boat that floats and can't be sunk! Using recycled items and supplies from around the house, build a boat that will float in a tub of water Take it a step further and build a boat that will hold a specific item like a can of soup

Supplies: Tub with water, supplies to build a boat, items to test floatation

Tips: Make sure to choose an item to test floatation that you have enough of or that all weigh the same and are the same size! Think rolls of pennies, soup cans, large wooden blocks, small wooden cubes, etc.

Hint: You can also challenge kids to build tin foil boats with only a 12" square of aluminum foil!

**NECESSITY MAY BE THE MOTHER
OF INVENTION, BUT PLAY IS
CERTAINLY THE FATHER.**
-RODGER VON OECH



MARSHMALLOW AND TOOTHPICK ARCHITECT

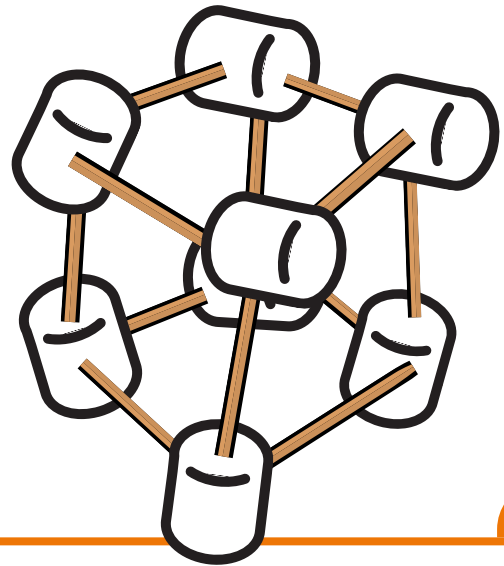
Supplies: Mini Marshmallows, toothpicks, and measuring tape

Tips: Have kids count out 100 marshmallows. Draw out a plan to get started.

Rules: No leaning against walls or other structures.

VARIATIONS

1. Use dry spaghetti and large marshmallows
2. Set a timer and see who can get the highest in a set amount of time
3. Make a "Building", place a light piece of cardboard on top and test out it's strength with different weighted things, coins, blocks etc. Try different designs to see which holds the most weight.



DATA AND RESULTS

DRAW YOUR DESIGN

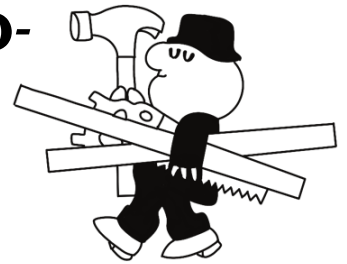
WHAT WORKED?

IMPROVE DESIGN

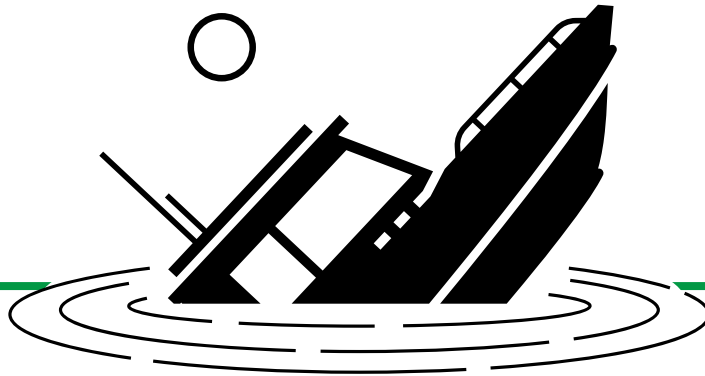
WHAT DIDN'T?

AND KEEP TRYING!

PLAY BUILDS THE KIND OF FREE-AND-EASY, TRY-IT-OUT, DO-IT-YOURSELF CHARACTER THAT OUR FUTURE NEEDS. -JAMES HINES JR.



UNSINKABLE BOAT



TEST

Take different materials and see how well they float and for how long.

Example: A toilet paper roll will float for a moment until it becomes water logged, what if you cover it in saran wrap?



Supplies: Tub with water, supplies to build a boat, items to test floatation

Tips: Make sure to choose an item to test floatation that you have enough of or that all weigh the same and are the same size! Think rolls of pennies, soup cans, large wooden blocks, small wooden cubes, etc.

Hint: You can also challenge kids to build tin foil boats with only a 12" square of aluminum foil!



DATA AND RESULTS

DRAW YOUR DESIGN

WHAT WORKED?

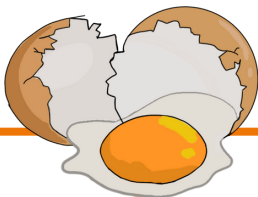
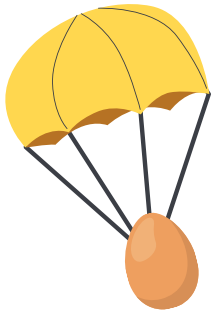
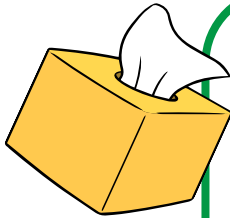
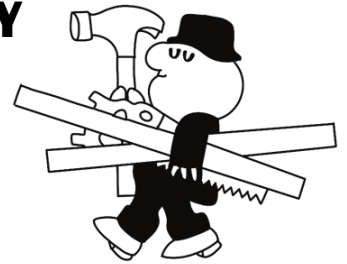
IMPROVE DESIGN

WHAT DIDN'T?

AND KEEP TRYING!

PLAY TURNS OUT TO BE STUNNINGLY ESSENTIAL IN CHILDHOOD IT'S LIKE LOVE SUNSHINE AND BROCCOLI ALL JUICED TOGETHER.

LENORE SKENAZY

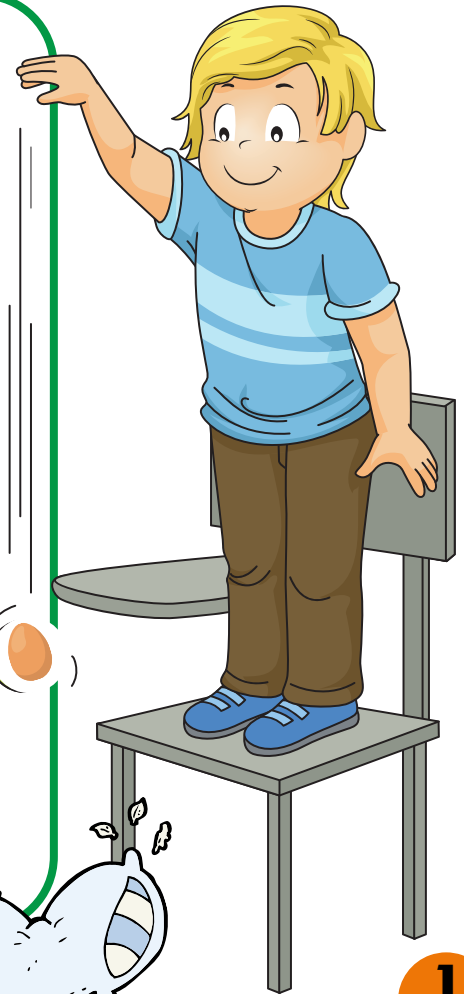
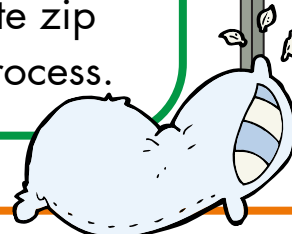


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Tips: the same height each time. To reduce mess, incorporate zip top bags into the design process.



DATA AND RESULTS

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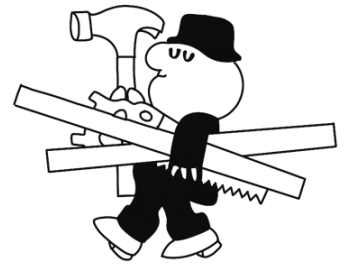
WHAT WORKED?

WHAT DIDN'T?

IMPROVE DESIGN

AND KEEP TRYING!

**YOU CAN'T USE UP CREATIVITY;
THE MORE YOU USE,
THE MORE YOU HAVE.**
MAYA ANGELOU

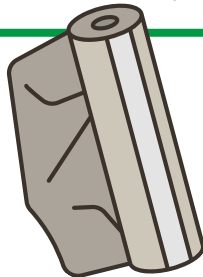


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Tips: Create a gap using two stacks of books that the bridge will need to span. Test the strength of the paper bridges by adding pennies to it. You can also compare other bridge building materials such as tin foil, wax paper, construction paper, or card stock! Test different ways to fold it and roll it, what works and why?



DATA AND RESULTS

DRAW YOUR DESIGN

WHAT WORKED?

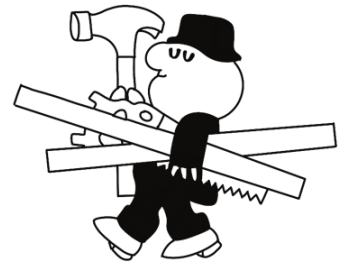
IMPROVE DESIGN

WHAT DIDN'T?

AND KEEP TRYING!

WONDER IS THE BEGINNING OF WISDOM

SOCRATES

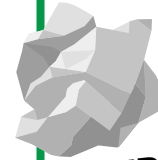
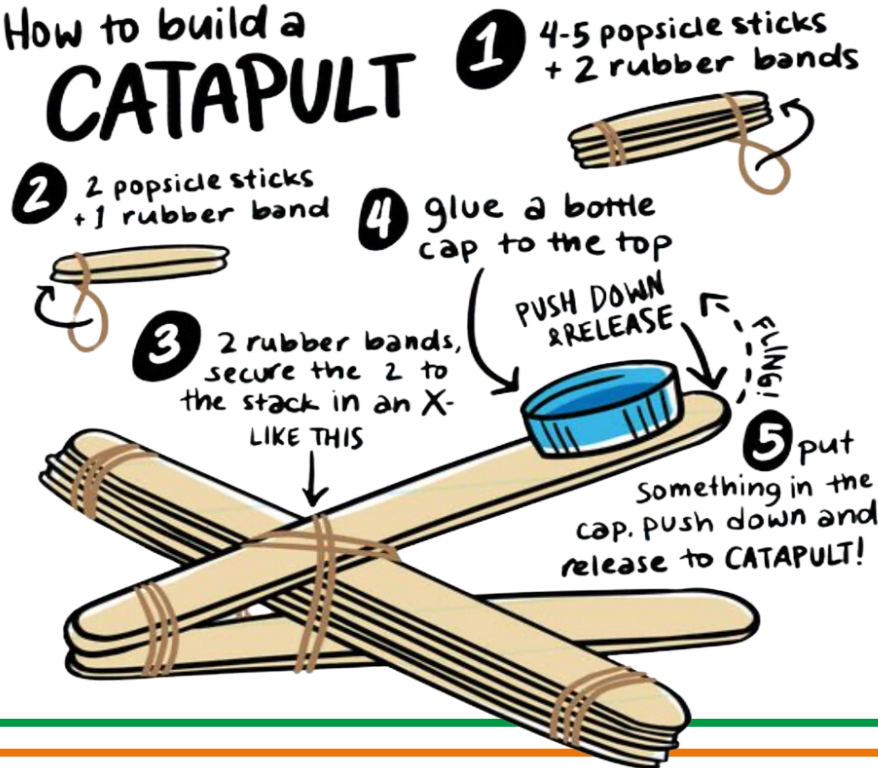


CATAPULT DESIGN CHALLENGE

Supplies: Popsicle sticks, rubber bands, bottle cap, glue or sticky dots, spoons, tubes, items to launch.

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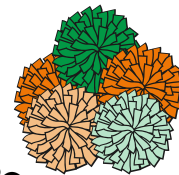
How to build a CATAPULT



CRUMPLED PAPER



MARSHMALLOWS



POMPOMS

DATA AND RESULTS

HYPOTHESIS ON ITEMS

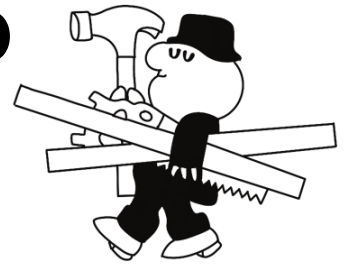
WHAT WORKED?

WHY?

WHAT DIDN'T?

DEFEAT HAPPENS ONLY TO THOSE WHO REFUSE TO TRY AGAIN.

NICK VUJICIC



ACTIVITY:

IMPROVED DESIGN RESULTS

2

DATA AND RESULTS

DRAW YOUR DESIGN

WHAT WORKED?

IMPROVE DESIGN

WHAT DIDN'T?

AND KEEP TRYING!

3

DATA AND RESULTS

DRAW YOUR DESIGN

WHAT WORKED?

IMPROVE DESIGN

WHAT DIDN'T?

AND KEEP TRYING!

SAFETY FIRST!

1. Cut along the striped dotted lines and tape together to make a headband going across your forehead
2. Cut out and color in your hat and tape your construction hat to the front of your headband

