

The Marshmallow Spaghetti Challenge

Mr. Williams 6th Grade Pre-Eng 8-2015

The Marshmallow Challenge is a remarkably fun and instructive design exercise that encourages teams to *experience* simple but profound lessons in collaboration, innovation and creativity.

Objective:

- A. I will be able to explain what collaborate means.
- B. I can problem solve a given set of instructions.

1. **Build the Tallest Freestanding Structure:** The winning team is the one that has the tallest structure measured from the table top surface to the top of the marshmallow. That means the structure cannot be suspended from a higher structure, like a chair, ceiling or chandelier.
2. **The Entire Marshmallow Must be on Top:** The entire marshmallow needs to be on the top of the structure. Cutting or eating part of the marshmallow disqualifies the team.
3. **Use as Much or as little of the material:** Each team can use as many or as few of the 20 spaghetti sticks, as much or as little of the string or tape.
4. **Break up the Spaghetti, String or Tape:** Teams are free to break the spaghetti, cut up the tape and string to create new structures.
5. **The Challenge Lasts 18 minutes:** Teams cannot hold on to the structure when the time runs out. Those touching or supporting the structure at the end of the exercise will be disqualified.
6. **If you don't understand the Rules – ASK!**

Material

- 20- sticks of spaghetti
- 36 inches tape
- 36 inches string
- 1 marshmallow
- 1 pair scissors

