



Build a Structure

The Task

- The challenge is to build a bridge or tower using natural materials.



How?

- Collect a variety of natural materials that can be used for building, sticks, logs and stones are great for this.
- Explain to children that they need to build a tower or bridge that is self-supporting using the materials they have collected.
- Find a suitable area for building. Flat, open ground is perfect.
- This challenge can be done as a solo activity, but it works well as a group activity.
- Challenge groups to make the tallest tower or the longest bridge.

Considerations

Discuss:

- What design will work well?
- What materials are going to be useful to make a successful structure?

What will you need?

Suitable ground
Natural items (other objects can be used if these are unavailable)





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Organisation & Layout

- Select an area that is flat and open that allows participants to have enough space for building their structure.
- Ensure participants can be seen at all times.

Learning Objectives

- Target Curriculum level 1,2,3
- Science
- Technology
- Engineering
- Mathematics
- Nature
- Problem solving

Safety Information

- When building a tower, ensure group are aware of the risk it has of collapsing.
- Make sure they are standing when building the tower so they can move away quickly if it was to fall over.
- If they chose large building materials, encourage them to help each other carry items.

Review & Assessment

- How can you make your tower taller or bridge longer?
- Go out and look at local bridges. What do they cross?
- Are they for transport or people?
- Research different types of bridges and towers from around the world e.g. Forth Bridge or Tower bridge.



Additional Links & Support

[Blairvadach Structure Building - YouTube](#)