Marshmallow Tower Challenge

Sections

Joey Scouts | Cub Scouts | Scouts | Venturer Scouts | Rover Scouts

Scouts VICTORIA

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Challenge Areas

COMMUNITY | CREATIVE | OUTDOOR | PERSONAL GROWTH

Scout Method Elements

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT | LEARNING BY DOING | NATURE AND THE OUTDOORS | PROMISE AND LAW | PERSONAL PROGRESSION | PATROL SYSTEM

SYMBOLIC FRAMEWORK | YOUTH LEADING, ADULTS SUPPORTING

SPICES Growth Areas

CHARACTER | EMOTIONAL | INTELLECTUAL | PHYSICAL | SOCIAL | SPIRITUAL

The Adventure

Test your engineering skills by building a tower using spaghetti!

Plan

Investigate different types of structures and how they are designed.

Give each Patrol the following items:

- 20 sticks of dry spaghetti
- 1 metre of string
- 1 metre of masking tape
- 1 marshmallow

Do

You have 20 minutes to construct a tower using only the spaghetti, string, and masking tape. Your tower must be able to support the weight of a marshmallow at the top.

You are aiming for the highest tower, which is standing unsupported with the marshmallow on the top when time is called.

You may tape the tower to the table. Spaghetti pieces can be snapped into smaller pieces.

Review

- What design features or shapes worked the best?
- How did you join the pieces of spaghetti together?
- What did you learn about materials? Is spaghetti a good structural material? Why or why not?

Variations

- Instead of a tower, build a bridge between two tables.
- Change the parameters for the challenge. Reduce the time allowance, or the tape and string allowances.
- Require the structure to stand by itself *without* being taped to the table.