



Marshmallow/Toothpick TEAM Challenge

Time Needed: 25 Min

Materials Needed:

- Toothpicks
- Mini Marshmallows

Procedures:

1. Philo teaches students to problem solve. Explain to students that when faced with a challenge or a problem they must first figure out what the problem is, then come up with possible solutions and then try those solutions.
2. Put the class into TEAMS of 4-5 students.
3. Give each TEAM an equal amount of toothpicks and mini marshmallows. About 50 marshmallows and 65 toothpicks.
4. Challenge the TEAMS to either make the tallest or most creative structure in 20 minutes.
5. Tell the class before they start building that they should TEAMstorm first and come up with a plan of action.
6. They must also take turns on each TEAM to make sure everyone gets a chance to build a part of the structure.
7. Give the TEAMS 20 minutes.
8. At the end, if you were competing for most creative structure, have the TEAMS describe what they made.
9. You can declare a winner or not.

Discussion Questions:

1. How did Problem Solving help you build a better structure?
2. Did you Problem Solve before you started building, during building, or both? How?
3. How was teamwork important for this activity?
4. What would you do differently next time?



Resources

Marshmallow TEAM Challenge | TEAMology

[Power up with Problem Solving and Service! | GIRL Power!](#)
[Power up with Creativity! | GIRL Power!](#)

[Finding Solutions | Arthur](#)
[Finding Solutions Video | Arthur](#)
[Cooperate | Arthur](#)
[Team Efforts | Arthur](#)

[Tower of Cows](#)

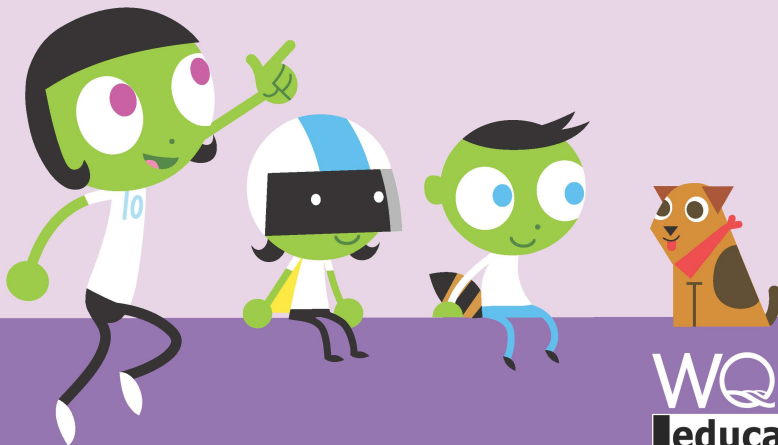
[Creative Problem-Solving Bingo: PreK and K | PBS KIDS](#)
[Creative Problem-Solving Bingo: Grades 1 and 2 | PBS KIDS](#)

[Teach Cooperation with Everyday Items | PBS Parents](#)
[5 Strategies to Help Kids Resolve Conflict | PBS Parents](#)
[How to Raise a Good Problem-Solver | PBS Parents](#)

[Another Tree Problem: Problem Solving | Peg + Cat](#)

[There IS a Way! | Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood](#)

[Resilience: Problem Solving Educator's Guide | Sesame Street](#)
[That's Cooperation! | Sesame Street](#)
[Elmo and Abby Cooperate | Sesame Street](#)
[Song: Together We Can Get It Done | Sesame Street](#)



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