

Build a stronger structure

engineering

What you need: newspaper sheets · card offcuts (from cereal boxes or scrap card) · drinking straws · lolly sticks · masking tape roll · toy car for bridge load test · small weight for tower load test (bag of coins or wooden block) · books or desk gap supports to make a 20–30 cm bridge span · Investigation Journal page · front-table demo kit (newspaper sheet, tape, two supports with the same marked 20–30 cm class gap)

Words to use

Strong shape · Join

Our question

What happens when we gently place the toy car or small weight on our free-standing structure, and how can one stronger shape or firmer join help?

I predict...because...

What we found out

Draw our free-standing structure after testing and strengthening

What did your structure do under the toy car or small weight?

Which change helped most: a stronger shape or a firmer join?