

STEM that changed Ireland

nature-of-stem

What you need: paper cups (message station) · string, about 2 m (message station) · demo cups and string (teacher board model only; keep separate from Station A) · 30 cm ruler (lever station) · pencil for lever pivot (lever station) · small weight, e.g. a 100 g mass, a small bag of rice, or a sock of rice tied shut (lever station) · same-size ice cubes (issued two at a time when a group arrives; keep spares cold) · insulated cool bag or small cooler for spare ice cubes · assorted wrapping scraps: wool or a sock, foil, paper, bubble wrap (ice station) · shallow tray (ice station) · station challenge cards (message, lever lift, ice insulation) · sticky notes or scrap paper for I wonder questions

Words to use

STEM · Engineering challenge · Breakthrough

Our question

Which simple idea will crack each engineering challenge: sending a message without speaking, lifting a load with less effort, and slowing an ice cube melting?

I predict...because...

Name the station challenge

Describe the idea that worked

Share one observation

Which idea worked at each station?

What would you change if you had one more try?
