

Y1&2 – Lesson Plan 1

Should you ever build a tower out of paper?

Aim: To be able to construct a tower from paper considering how the shape of the paper can affect the strength of the tower.	Key Words: • tower • structure • paper • strength • support	Preparation: • white paper • masking tape OR Sellotape • timer
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Prior Learning: children will have learnt how to construct different objects from paper.

WC / PT	<u>Warm-up:</u> What things have you made from paper before? How did you make these? Discuss as a class how paper has been used before. Create a class list of all the things children have made from paper in the past. Are there any surprises?	0-5 mins
WC / PT	<u>Main Teach:</u> What structures can we see in the real world that are strong? Children might suggest man-made structures (e.g. buildings and bridges) or they might suggest natural structures (e.g. mountains or cliffs). Invite one child to the front to experiment using paper to create a tower. Ask the rest of the class to look carefully at their approach to the problem. What is going well? What isn't going so well. Children are to save their ideas for their own attempt.	10-15 mins
I / S	<u>Activity:</u> 1. Get into groups within your class. 2. Get the materials that you will need. 3. Discuss as a group how you will make a tower with the resources. 4. Build the tallest tower you can within ten minutes. 5. Compare your tower with others in the class. 6. Whose was the most successful and why?	30-40 mins
I	<u>Extension Challenge:</u> Bridges. Having made a tower from paper, children can attempt to make a bridge from paper designed to span a 30cm gap between two tables.	0-15 mins
WC	<u>Plenary:</u> Should you ever build a tower out of paper? Which tower was the most successful and why was this tower the most successful?	5 mins
WC – Whole Class		PT – Partner Talk
		I – Independent
		S – Support

Challenge A	Make the tallest tower you can which is capable of standing freely and not attached to anything.
Challenge B	Make a boat which floats successfully in a tank of water and can carry a cargo of at least one penny.