



Big Brothers Big Sisters

Making a Bridge

Object is to build a bridge between two chairs, using only newspaper and tape. The bridge must support the weight of the book(s).

What you'll need:

- 50 sheets of newspaper (i.e.: a thick Sunday newspaper)
- Masking Tape
- A yard or meter stick (only need one – share amount team to ensure that chairs are about 24 inches apart)
- Heavy books (i.e.: novels, dictionaries, text books)
- 2 chairs (or 2 desks or 2 tables)



What to do:

- Make a plan and brainstorm how to create your bridge.
- Write your plan down on the handout, under 'our plan.'
- Discuss some possibilities; ie folding or rolling newspaper.
- Discuss the importance of trial and error with your Little.
- Discuss how to solve problems by tackling steps one at a time.
- Start building your bridge, making it as strong as possible.
- Test the strength of your bridge throughout the building process.
- Modify plan to make it stronger if necessary...or start over!
- Test the strength of your bridge by placing books on it, one by one.
- If other matches are building bridges, have a friendly competition to see whose bridge can hold the most weight.
- Reflect on the activity by completing 'what we did' and 'what happened' on the handout.
- Ask your Little what they learned from the activity.



Our plan:

What we did:

What happened:
