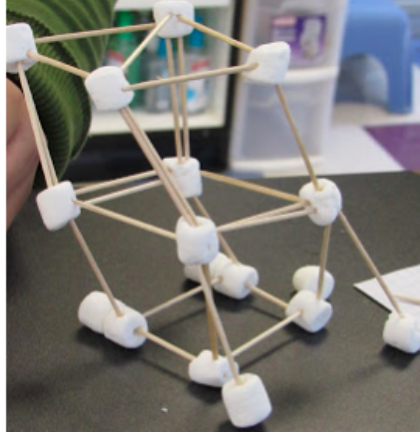


STEM Fine Motor Building Challenge

This STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) challenge incorporates fine motor and planning to create buildings with everyday, household objects. See how tall you can stack toothpicks/marshmallows or how sturdy you can make a structure, all while encouraging the use of fine motor skills!



What you'll need:

- Toothpicks
- Mini Marshmallows
- Paper (if designing a structure)

Directions:

- Create a structure/tower using only mini marshmallows and toothpicks. Connect the marshmallows to the ends of the toothpicks.
- Ways to increase difficulty:
 - Make it a challenge by adding “judging criteria” (height, sturdiness, overall design).
 - Utilize a piece of paper to design a structure prior to beginning the build.
- Ways to decrease difficulty:
 - Keep the structure flat, rather than building tall. Focus on connecting toothpicks to marshmallows, not stacking.
 - Provide the child with a model or demonstration prior to beginning the build.

Activity found at: <https://teachersareterrific.com/2017/04/toothpicktowers.html>