

# MARSHMALLOW CHALLENGE

## SUPPLIES

20 strands uncooked spaghetti ♦ 1 yard tape  
1 yard string ♦ 1 marshmallow ♦ timer

Try the Marshmallow Challenge, a fun and quick design challenge that thousands of people have attempted.

**1 Design Goal:** In 18 minutes, build the tallest freestanding **structure** that can support a marshmallow. Check out the official rules on the website before you get started to answer your questions.



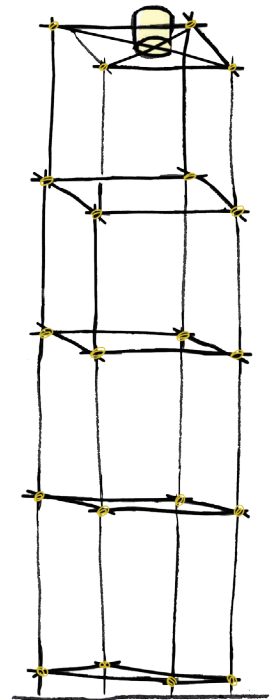
marshmallow challenge

**2 Brainstorm:** Alone or in a group, think of ideas for creating your structure. Because of the time limit, keep your brainstorming to a couple minutes.

**3 Select Alternatives:** Decide on which design to do, plus a few other designs to try. Make sure your ideas meet the goals. Will it hold the marshmallow? Is it tall?

**4 Design and Prototype:** Draw a quick sketch, then start to build. Try several different designs.

**5 Test and Reflect:** When the time is up, measure the height of your tower. What worked? What didn't work? What could be improved?



## WORDS 2 KNOW

**structure:** something that is built, such as a building, bridge, tunnel, tower, or dam.

Kids usually have the tallest structures because they start building prototypes quickly and learn what does and doesn't work. Adults spend too long planning on paper!