

The Spaghetti Incident

Student Version

Adapted from a lesson entitled "Lesson Plan 2: Developing Successful Teamwork Skills" at the LessonPlansPage.com located at www.lessonplanspage.com/ScienceSSMars2DevTeamworkSkills56.htm

Why should your team do this activity?

No matter how good each individual on your team might be at building a Rover, working together as a team will greatly improve your success at the Design Competition. It takes a long time to learn how to work well together as a team, so the more practice you get, the better your team will be! This activity will help your team practice working together.

The Necessities:

- ★ A timer or watch with a second hand
- ★ 12 pieces of dry spaghetti noodles (plus a few extras in case some break)
- ★ 6 gumdrops
- ★ Small bag of miniature marshmallows
- ★ Meter stick
- ★ A pen or pencil
- ★ Your Idaho TECH Lab Notebook

Directions:

1. Your team will try to build the tallest tower possible with only the materials listed above in ten minutes. Your team can use as many marshmallows as you wish, but only 12 pieces of spaghetti and 6 gumdrops. Here are the rules: each team member of your team has to participate **and you cannot talk to each other at all**. If you talk, your teacher will take away one of your gumdrops, so be careful!
2. Build away! Make sure someone keeps track of time if the teacher is not doing this for your team.
3. Once ten minutes is up, measure how tall your tower is, and record this height in your Lab Notebook. Also, write a few notes in your Notebook about how your team constructed your tower. Think about how you could have worked together as a team better. **What would you do differently next time?**
4. Clean up your tower and eat the gumdrops!

