

Marshmallow Challenge

For: Creative Problem Solving & Collaboration Exercise

Description: Build the tallest structure to support a marshmallow with nothing but spaghetti and a yard of tape.

Duration: 20-30 minutes

Supplies needed: 20 sticks of uncooked spaghetti, 1 roll of masking tape, 1 yard of string, and 1 marshmallow for every team.

Instructions: Using just these supplies, which team can build the tallest tower? There's a catch: the marshmallow has to be at the very top of the spaghetti tower, and the whole structure has to stand on its own (that means no hands or other objects supporting it!) for five seconds. The team who finishes first, wins.

Debriefing questions:

What was your plan for the activity? How did you come up with it?

What was one of the challenges of doing this activity?

What did the group have to do to be successful?

Did you try different ideas? If so, why did you change your approach?

What did you do that was helpful to the process?

How can you apply what you learned from this activity in your life or the workplace?