



4-H Learn at Home Activity: Newspaper Tower

Materials Needed:

- 8 sheets of newspaper
- 12 inches of tape
- Small item (deck of cards, tennis ball, small toy, etc)
- piece of paper and pencil

Instructions:

Use the engineering design process to build the tallest, free-standing newspaper tower you can that will hold a deck of cards.

1. Think about how you might solve this problem.
2. Design a solution. Start by drawing a picture or two.
3. Pick one of your ideas and build it!
4. Test out your design. Can your tower hold the deck of cards?
5. Improve and redesign your structure to make it taller or more sturdy.

Reflective Questions:

- What do you already know about structures that might help you to build a sturdy tower?
- How would you/did you improve your design?
- What problem did you encounter during the build and how did you solve it?

Extensions of this activity:

- Make this a family activity and challenge friends or neighbors to do it with you. Post pictures of your results with one another.
- Have youth work independently or in teams. Who can build the tallest tower?

- Change the amount of newspaper, tape and the item. For example, could you build a tower that holds a basketball?