

## Marshmallow Tower

**Objective:**

To use communication and decision making skills as a team to solve a problem.

**Material:**

About 70 - 100 toothpicks and 100 - 150 small marshmallows for each group

**Time:**

20 - 30 minutes

**Activity:**

- Group your students into teams of 4-6 people.
- Give each group toothpicks and marshmallows. Tell them not to do anything with their supplies until the directions have been given and they are told to start.
- Explain that each group will have 10 minutes to build a tower using the toothpicks and marshmallows. When you call time, every group must stop building and sit down. The group that has the tallest standing tower (without the help of anyone or anything holding it) will be the winner. The tower must stand on its own for at least 15 seconds when being judged.

**Questions and Discussions:**

- How did you as a team decide how you were going to build your tower?
- Were you all happy with your final tower? Why, or why not?
- How did your group work? Was there a leader? If so, who decided on the leader? How did you make decisions as a group? Was everyone's voice heard?
- Do you think your group worked well together?
- What was your group's biggest strength? What was the biggest weakness?
- Would you make changes in the way your group made decisions?