

Teamwork & Group Roles: Tower Challenge

Name: _____ Date: _____

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

The student will practice teamwork by completing a hands-on building challenge and reflecting on group roles.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- 20 index cards or 20 sheets of paper
- Tape
- A timer
- A ruler or measuring tape
- Notebook paper

HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

1. Set a timer for 15 minutes and, using only the 20 index cards/paper and tape, build the tallest freestanding tower you can (it must stand on its own for at least 10 seconds when finished).
2. If working with family members/siblings, assign or notice roles during the build (example: planner, builder, material manager, timekeeper); if working alone, note which of these roles you naturally took on at different points.
3. Measure your final tower's height with the ruler or measuring tape and record it.
4. Write down one moment during the build when a decision needed to be made, and how it was decided (discussion, one person leading, trial and error, etc.).
5. Rebuild or improve your tower for 5 more minutes using what you learned from your first attempt, then re-measure.

QUESTIONS

1. How tall was your first tower, and how tall was your improved tower?
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2. What role(s) did you (or team members) take during the build?
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3. Describe one decision that had to be made during the build and how your team (or you) made it.

4. What did you change between your first and second attempt, and why did it help (or not help)?
