



# Bridge Building

## **Description:**

This event tests a student's ability to build a lengthy, strong, stable, and reproducible bridge from common materials.

**Number of Participants:** 2

**Approximate Time:** 45 minutes

## **The Competition:**

1. Students will be given fifty popsicle sticks ( $4\frac{1}{2}$  in x  $\frac{1}{4}$  in size – NOT JUMBO/Tongue Depressor size) and a meter of making tape. They are to construct a bridge that spans the greatest possible distance and be able to support a clay mass of 250g on the bridge. Students will place the clay mass on the bridge.
2. The bridge must support the clay mass for 10 seconds. Students will be able to move supports apart to increase the span of the bridge. They will have 4 trials or until the bridge fails/reaches maximum length.
3. No string or other materials may be used.
4. The bridge must be suspended on two similar supporting structures—like two chairs or tables.
5. No popsicle sticks may touch the floor or other supporting structures.
6. Popsicle sticks may be broken and taped together.

## **Scoring:**

1. The bridge spanning the greatest distance supporting the clay mass for 10 seconds will be declared the winner.
2. Time to build the bridge will be used as a tie-breaker.