

OCTE 2012 – Elementary Conference Workshops

GRADE 3 | UNDERSTANDING STRUCTURES AND MECHANISMS STRONG AND STABLE STRUCTURES

ERGONOMIC BOOK STAND DESIGN CHALLENGE

OVERALL EXPECTATIONS

By the end of Grade 3, students will:

2. investigate strong and stable structures to determine how their design and materials enable them to perform their load-bearing function.

SPECIFIC EXPECTATIONS

2. Developing Investigation and Communication Skills

By the end of Grade 3, students will:

2.1 follow established safety procedures during science and technology investigations (e.g., carry scissors and other cutting tools in a safe manner)

2.4 use technological problem-solving skills (see page 16), and knowledge acquired from previous investigations, to design and build a strong and stable structure that serves a purpose (e.g., a place to store lunch bags, a place to put wet boots)

2.5 use appropriate science and technology vocabulary, including compression, tension, strut, ties, strength, and stability, in oral and written communication

2.6 use a variety of forms (e.g., oral, written, graphic, multimedia) to communicate with different audiences and for a variety of purposes (e.g., an oral report to the class on the results of experiments to strengthen materials).

Learning Goals

1. Students will follow established safety procedures during science and technology investigations (e.g., carry scissors and other cutting tools in a safe manner).
2. Students will design and build a strong and stable ergonomic book stand.
3. Students will use appropriate science and technology vocabulary, including compression, tension, strut, ties, strength, and stability, in oral and written communication.
4. Students will use a variety of forms (e.g., oral, written, graphic, multimedia) to communicate with different audiences and for a variety of purposes (e.g., an oral report to the class on the results of experiments to strengthen the book stand).

Assessment and Evaluation

For Assessment and Evaluation support, please see Appendix G.

Check items you wish to evaluate during the completion of this unit. Skip items that do not apply to your current program needs.

You may differentiate your assessment by offering your students a variety of these items as “choices”, while making other items mandatory.

- Please see Appendix B for this unit’s assessment rubric (assessment of learning).
- Please see Appendix C for this unit's Grade Sheet (assessment of learning).
- Please see Appendix D for the Continuum for Technological Problem Solving rubric (assessment for/as learning).

- Please see Appendix E for the Assessment As Learning, Student Self-Assessment Log” (assessment as learning).
- Please see Appendix F for the Teacher’s Record, Assessment For Learning sheet.

Success Criteria

Knowledge and Understanding (K&U), please see "Appendix B” for corresponding evaluation items:

- the student acquired a knowledge of facts and terminology related to strong and stable structures, as well as, used tools and materials safely and appropriately in building and testing a toy that uses more than one simple machine in its design (K&U, 1);
- the student understands content (e.g., concepts, ideas, and processes) that address strong and stable structures (K&U, 2);

Thinking and Investigation (T&I), please see "Appendix B” for corresponding evaluation items:

- the student developed ideas, regarding potential solutions to his/her design challenge, and developed a suitable plan for solving it (T&I, 3);
- the student used processing skills and strategies (e.g., performing and recording, gathering evidence and data, observing, manipulating materials and using equipment safely, ... proving) to design and fabricate a strong and stable ergonomic book stand (T&I, 4);
- the student used critical/creative thinking processes, skills, and strategies to test her/his ergonomic book stand, and determine if her/his prototype met the design challenge requirements (T&I, 5).

Communication (Com.), please see "Appendix B” for corresponding evaluation items:

- the student completed an oral, visual, or written report that was organized in a clear, logical manner, and included diagrams and models where appropriate (Com. 6);
- the student’s report accurately described the steps taken to solve the design challenge, as well as, the learning that he/she acquired from the unit; the student used an appropriate oral, and/or written form for the selected audience e.g., teacher, or teacher and classmates (Com. 7);
- the student included the correct use of scientific vocabulary and terminology (e.g., compression, tension, strut, ties, strength, and stability) in his/her report (Com. 8);

Application (App.), please "Appendix B” for corresponding evaluation items:

- the student followed established safety practices for using tools, and materials (App. 9);
- the student listed beneficial aspects of his/her design regarding people, other living things, and the environment (App. 10);
- the student proposed courses of practical action that involved the use of her/his ergonomic book stand (e.g., to help improve the posture of readers and lessen their neck strain while enjoying books) (App. 11).

Curriculum Connections and Additional Assessment Opportunities

Language:

- Oral Communication, Overall Expectation 2 (select from specific expectations 2.3, 2.4, and 2.7);
- Writing, Overall Expectations 2, and 3 (select from specific expectations 2.1, 2.4, and 3.3);
- Media Literacy, Overall Expectation 3 (specific expectation 3.4).

Materials and Tools List

Tools:

- CSA approved safety glasses/goggles, one pair per person (parent volunteers included),
- a first aid kit (please see your Board's Health and Safety Regulations if one is being purchased for your classroom),
- an approved eyewash station; this can be two eyewash bottles containing approved eyewash fluid that has not reached its expiry time limit after decanting, or an installed system (an actual eyewash station, or approved faucet attachment);
- rulers, one per project;
- basic hacksaws (junior saws), or coping saws, minimum one for every 3 projects (local hardware stores, www.kidder.ca or www.busybeetools.com),
- bench hooks, minimum one for every 3 projects (www.kidder.ca),
- 3" C-clamps, minimum one for every 3 projects (local hardware stores, www.kidder.ca or www.busybeetools.com).

Materials:

- 1/2" x 1/2" x 24" (12 mm x 12 mm x 61 cm) basswood wood strips, 3 per project,
- cardstock gussets (triangles to glue over wood joints for added strength), 8-10 per project (cut your own from cereal boxes or order from www.kidder.ca),
- glue, about 500 ml for the class.

Internet Resources to Get You Started (always stay on the main page)

- A good variety of ergonomic book stands <http://www.thefind.com/office/info-ergonomic-book-holder>
- An example of high tech simplicity when it comes to ergonomic book stands <http://www.easy-read.com/Easyread/welcome.html>
- A great website for background knowledge regarding all vocabulary required for this strand <http://www.diydoctor.org.uk/projects/forces.htm>
- A good interactive forces and strength of shape site <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/buildingbig/lab/forces.html>
- Learn360 is licenced through the Ministry of Education (See OSAPAC). If you do not have a username and login, please contact your Board's information services department and request one.
 - To see the main material advance the video to 16:30. This is a long video but it provides excellent information.
<http://www.learn360.com/ShowVideo.aspx?ID=132365>

Background Knowledge

Please see "Internet Resources" listed above.

Be sure to locate your Board's safety policy and documentation procedures. Train your students in the use of the saws, clamps, and bench hooks, (following your Board's requirements) and document this instruction accordingly.

See "Appendix H: Samples" for an example of student work.

Students will tend to ignore the use of gussets to join pieces of wood. Encourage them to use this strengthening technique, to fabricate a stronger stand. A card stock (or cereal box) triangle should be placed on both sides of a joint where possible.

If cm grid paper is available, this will help students to make plans and keep track of the amount of wood they are using. This will help to avoid having plans submitted that require double the amount of materials provided.

Activity Description

Design Challenge:

Students will use strong structural shapes (triangles) to strengthen and support a strong and stable ergonomic book stand from 1/2" (12 mm) square wood strips. The challenge is as follows:

1. Using the tools and materials provided, design and build a book stand that will raise your book to a comfortable reading angle.
 - a. This is called ergonomic design.
2. Make use of strong structural shapes, and strengthening techniques to make your book stand strong and stable.
3. Record what happens while you test your book stand to see if it is strong, stable and places your book in a comfortable reading position.
 - a. This is called recording your observations.
4. If something needs to be fixed up, make a plan, make your changes, and test your book stand again (record any new observations).
5. Complete a report and present it to your teacher.

Minds On/Hands On

1. Whole class project or hand out copies of Appendix A: Ergonomic Book Stands, and Appendix E: Assessment As Learning, Student Assessment Log.
2. Introduce the class to the term ergonomic, and explain that items with an ergonomic design are more comfortable to use, and reduce the risk of injury due to strains or repetitive use.
3. Small groups, ask students to discuss what they see in Appendix A, and relate it to what they can remember about strong structural shapes, tension, compression, struts, ties, and stability.
4. Whole class, discuss what the class can remember about the items listed above clarify as needed.

Action

1. Teacher introduces the design challenge and has the materials and tools on display. A sample introduction is as follows:
 - a. We understand what makes a structure strong and stable. Using this knowledge you are going to design and build an ergonomic book stand that is strong and stable.
 - b. After receiving instructions and clarification, students fill out item A on the Student Self-Assessment Log (Appendix E).
2. Teacher informs students that they are to turn and talk, to see what kind ideas they can come up with for solving this design challenge. This is followed by a whole class discussion of the ideas generated. Students complete item B on the Student Self-Assessment Log.
3. Teacher leads students in narrowing down the choices down to those that reflect a strong stable ergonomic design. Teacher further narrows the options based on the tools and materials available, and the students' capabilities. Students complete item C, on the Student Self-Assessment Log.
4. Teacher reviews, or provides instruction on, Learning Skills related to this type of task (e.g., safety, problem solving, collaboration, and responsibility).
5. Teacher leads discussion/brainstorming session on what makes a good strong, stable, ergonomic book stand (co-constructs success criteria) and records items that reflect the curriculum goals. Students complete item E on the Student Self-Assessment Log.
6. Students create a set of plans (labeled pictures and oral description) for making a strong, stable, ergonomic book stand using the tools and materials available. Teacher reviews plans for feasibility. Students with approved plans move on to the next step. Students complete item D on the Student Self-Assessment Log.
7. Students follow their plans to fabricate their strong, stable, ergonomic book stands. Students complete item F on the Student Self-Assessment Log.
8. Teacher reviews/discusses the vocabulary from this unit (e.g., compression, tension, strut, ties, strength, and stability) and students review their designs to see where these items are applicable.
9. Students test their ergonomic book stand and determine if it solves the design challenge as required. Teacher supports students as they record observations and results, while carrying out their tests. Students complete items G and H on the Student Self-Assessment Log.
10. If improvements are necessary, and if time permits, students should redesign their prototype and re-test it to determine if the changes were successful.
11. Students, make note of all final observations and insights, then begin working on their reports.

Consolidation

12. In groups, students discuss what went well with their designs and tests, what changes were made, why they were needed, and what they would do differently if given another opportunity. This material should be added to the students' reports. Students complete items I - J on the Student Self-Assessment Log.
13. In groups, students discuss/debate how their ergonomic book stands are good for them in some ways, as well as how they might be bad for them in others. Students complete item K on the Student Self-Assessment Log.
14. Students, create an oral report that is supported by a labeled drawing or drawings, written sentences, and media (pictures, slideshows, videos etc.) to explain what the design challenge was, and how successfully they solved it. Students should strive to include as many vocabulary words as possible (e.g., compression, tension, strut, ties, strength, and stability). Students complete item M on the Student Self-Assessment Log.
15. Students, present an oral report that is supported by a labeled drawing or drawings, written sentences, and media to explain what the design challenge was, and how successfully they solved it. Students complete item L on the Student Self-Assessment Log.

Appendix A: Ergonomic Book Stands



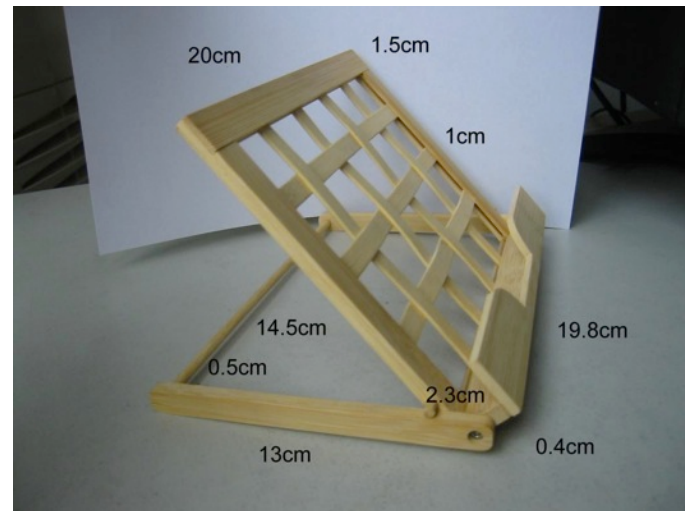
Source: <http://www.thefind.com/office/info-ergonomic-book-holder>



Source: <http://www.pic2fly.com/Ergonomic+Book+Stand.html>



Source: <http://www.tumblr.com/tagged/steam-bending>



Source: http://img.tootoo.com/mytootoo/upload/23/233744/product/233744_48fbe6d28869851b12e133e10b266db6.jpg

Appendix B: Assessment Rubric (Assessment Of Learning)

This rubric was developed from the <u>Ontario Curriculum Grades 1-8 Science and Technology, Revised 2007</u> document.				
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Knowledge and Understanding (K&U) – Subject-specific content acquired in each grade (knowledge), and the comprehension of its meaning and significance (understanding)				
	The Student:			
1. Knowledge of content (e.g., facts and terminology related to strong and stable structures; safe use of tools and materials)	demonstrates limited knowledge of content	demonstrates some knowledge of content	demonstrates considerable knowledge of content	demonstrates thorough knowledge of content
2. Understanding of content (e.g., concepts, ideas, and processes involving strong and stable structures)	demonstrates limited understanding of content	demonstrates some understanding of content	demonstrates considerable understanding of content	demonstrates thorough understanding of content
Thinking and Investigation (T&I) – The use of critical and creative thinking skills and inquiry problem solving skills and/or processes				
	The Student:			
3. Use of initiating and planning skills and strategies (e.g. identifying the problem and developing plans)	uses initiating and planning skills and strategies with limited effectiveness	uses initiating and planning skills and strategies with some effectiveness	uses initiating and planning skills and strategies with considerable effectiveness	uses initiating and planning skills and strategies with a high degree of effectiveness
4. Use of processing skills and strategies (e.g., performing and recording, gathering evidence... data, observing, manipulating materials and using equipment safely, ... proving) to design and fabricate an ergonomic book stand that is strong and stable	uses processing skills and strategies with limited effectiveness	uses processing skills and strategies with some effectiveness	uses processing skills and strategies with considerable effectiveness	uses processing skills and strategies with a high degree of effectiveness
5. Use of critical/creative thinking processes, skills, and strategies (e.g., analysing, interpreting, problem solving, evaluating, forming and justifying conclusions on the basis of evidence) to complete a fair test to determine if the prototype meets the design requirements for this task	uses critical/creative thinking processes, skills, and strategies with limited effectiveness	uses critical/creative thinking processes, skills, and strategies with some effectiveness	uses critical/creative thinking processes, skills, and strategies with considerable effectiveness	uses critical/creative thinking processes, skills, and strategies with a high degree of effectiveness
Communication (Com.) – The conveying of meaning through various forms				
	The student:			
6. Expression and organization of ideas and information in oral, visual, and/or written forms (complete a report that is	expresses and organizes ideas and information with limited	expresses and organizes ideas and information with some	expresses and organizes ideas and information with	expresses and organizes ideas and information

organized in a clear, logical manner and includes diagrams and models where appropriate)	effectiveness	effectiveness	considerable effectiveness	with a high degree of effectiveness
7. Communication for different audiences and purposes in oral, visual, and/or written forms (accurately describe the learning that he/she acquired from this unit and use an appropriate form for the selected audience, e.g., teacher, or teacher and classmates)	communicates for different audiences and purposes with limited effectiveness	communicates for different audiences and purposes with some effectiveness	communicates for different audiences and purposes with considerable effectiveness	communicates for different audiences and purposes with a high degree of effectiveness
8. Use of conventions, vocabulary, and terminology (e.g., compression, tension, strut, ties, strength, and stability) in oral, visual, and/or written forms	uses conventions, vocabulary, and terminology with limited effectiveness	uses conventions, vocabulary, and terminology with some effectiveness	uses conventions, vocabulary, and terminology with considerable effectiveness	uses conventions, vocabulary, and terminology with a high degree of effectiveness
Application (App.) – The use of knowledge and skills to make connections within and between various contexts				
	The student:			
9. Application of knowledge and skills (e.g., concepts and processes, use of equipment and technology, investigation skills) in familiar contexts	applies knowledge and skills in familiar contexts with limited effectiveness	applies knowledge and skills in familiar contexts with some effectiveness	applies knowledge and skills in familiar contexts with considerable effectiveness	applies knowledge and skills in familiar contexts with a high degree of effectiveness
10. Making connections between society, science, technology, and the environment regarding the design solution selected and its impacts on people, other living things, and the environment	connects science, technology, society, and the environment with limited effectiveness	connects science, technology, society, and the environment with some effectiveness	connects science, technology, society, and the environment with considerable effectiveness	connects science, technology, society, and the environment with a high degree of effectiveness
11. Proposing courses of practical action to deal with problems relating to science, technology, society, and the environment stand (e.g., to help improve the posture of readers and lessen their neck strain while enjoying books)	proposes courses of practical action of limited effectiveness	proposes courses of practical action of some effectiveness	proposes courses of practical action of considerable effectiveness	proposes highly effective courses of practical action

Appendix D: Assessment For Learning Continuum For Technological Problem Solving

Targets for Grades 1-3 are in the Beginning to Exploring range.

Beginning > Exploring > Emerging > Competent > Proficient			
Initiating and Planning			
The student:			
(A) recognizes a practical problem in a given context	identifies practical problems to solve in the immediate environment	identifies practical problems to solve in the local community	identifies practical problems to solve
(B) with support (e.g., as a class or in small groups), brainstorms possible solutions to a practical problem	with support (e.g., as a class or in small groups), generates a list of possible solutions to a practical problem and determines which are realistic in the classroom and/or the real world	identifies possible solutions to a practical problem and explains how each might solve the problem	identifies possible solutions to a practical problem and prioritizes them with regard to their potential for solving the problem
(C) with support (e.g., as a class or in small groups), selects one possible solution to implement	selects a possible solution to implement	selects a possible solution to implement, and provides reasons for the choice	selects a possible solution, and provides reasons for the choice that take into account considerations such as function, aesthetics, environmental impact
(D) with support (e.g., as a class or in small groups), makes a simple plan to carry out the solution	makes a simple plan (individually or in small groups), including simple drawings and/or diagrams, to carry out the solution	outlines (individually or in small groups) the steps of a plan, including labeled drawings and/or diagrams, to solve the problem	outlines in detail, including technical drawings and/or diagrams, each step of a plan to solve the problem
(E) with support (e.g., as a class or in small groups), establishes a limited number of criteria for evaluating proposed solutions to the problem	with support (e.g., as a class or in small groups), establishes a limited number of criteria for evaluating proposed solutions to the problem	contributes to establishing general criteria for evaluating objects or devices designed to solve the problem	contributes to establishing general criteria for evaluating objects or devices designed to solve
Performing and Recording			
The student:			
(F) with support (e.g., as a class or in small groups), carries out the pre-determined plan	with support (e.g., as a class or in small groups), carries out the pre-determined plan	carries out the pre-determined plan (individually or in pairs or small groups)	carries out the pre-determined plan
(G) with support, designs, builds, and tests (on the basis of pre-determined criteria) a	with support, designs, builds, and tests (on the basis of pre-	designs, builds, and tests (on the basis of pre-determined	designs, builds, and tests (on the basis of pre-determined

device or an object to solve the problem	determined criteria) a device or an object to solve the problem	criteria) a device or an object to solve the problem	criteria) a device or an object to solve the problem
(H) records results using pictures and/or tally charts	records results in a variety of ways, such as sentences, simple drawings, diagrams, and/or charts, and/or charts	records results in a variety of ways, such as sentences, drawings, labelled diagrams, graphs	records results in a variety of ways, such as sentences, technical drawings, labeled diagrams, graphs, and/or charts
Analyzing and Interpreting			
The student:			
(I) with support, identifies how well the chosen solution solved the practical problem, using the pre-determined criteria	identifies how well the chosen solution solved the practical problem, using the pre-determined criteria	explains how well the chosen solution solved the practical problem, and suggests possible changes to the criteria and the solution	explains how well the chosen solution solved the practical problem, using qualitative and/or quantitative data, and suggests possible changes to the criteria and the solution
(J) with support, suggests something that might be changed about the solution to the problem identifies some things that could be done differently to improve the solution to the problem	identifies and explains what changes could be made to the plan and how to improve the solution to the problem, and gives reasons for the changes	identifies and explains what changes could be made to the plan and the testing process, and how to improve the solution to the problem, and gives reasons for the changes	identifies and explains what changes could be made to the plan and the testing process, and how to improve the solution to the problem, and gives reasons for the changes
(K)	identifies some possible beneficial and non-beneficial impacts of the chosen solution for himself/herself or others	identifies the effects of the chosen solution on himself/herself, others, and/or the environment, considering things such as cost, materials, time, and/or space	identifies the effects of the chosen solution on himself/herself, others, and/or the environment, considering things such as cost, materials, time, and/or space, and suggests ways in which undesirable effects could be lessened or eliminated
Communicating			
The student:			
(L) describes orally, and/or using drawings, pictures, and/or simple sentences, the problem and how he or she solved it	describes orally, and/or using drawings, pictures, and/or simple sentences, the problem and how he or she solved it	describes orally, and using labelled drawings and diagrams, charts, graphs, and/or written descriptions, the problem and how he or she solved it	describes orally, and using labelled drawings and diagrams, charts, graphs, and/or written descriptions, the problem and how he or she solved it
(M) uses grade-appropriate science and technology vocabulary correctly	uses grade-appropriate science and technology vocabulary correctly	uses grade-appropriate science and technology vocabulary correctly	uses grade-appropriate science and technology vocabulary correctly

Appendix E: Assessment AS Learning, Student Self-Assessment Log

Name: _____ Teacher: _____ Class: _____

These descriptors reflect skills that have reached the Beginning/Exploring levels on the "Continuum for Technological Problem-Solving Skills."

Circle the correct thumb to let your teacher know how you are doing.



I'm doing great!



I'm doing okay.



I need some help with this.

A. I know what problem I have to solve.



H. I can use sentences and drawings to show you how my ergonomic book stand.



B. With some help, I can share ideas for an ergonomic book stand that will solve the problem.

I. I can tell you what is good about my ergonomic book stand, and if it solved the problem.



C. With some help, I can pick a good idea for an ergonomic book stand that will solve the problem.

J. I can tell you something that will make my ergonomic book stand better.



D. With some help, I can tell you my plan and make a drawing of the ergonomic book stand I will build.

K. I can tell you some things about my ergonomic book stand that are good for me, and some things about it that may not be good for me.



E. With some help, I understand what will make a good ergonomic book stand

L. I can tell you about the design problem and how my ergonomic book stand solved it by talking, using pictures I have drawn, media, and sentences I have written.



F. With some help, I can follow my plan.



G. With some help, I can design build and test my ergonomic book stand.

M. I can use the science words we have learned such as compression, tension, strut, ties, strength, and stability.



Parent/Guardian's Review

1. Signed: _____ Date: _____

2. Signed: _____ Date: _____

Appendix G: Support for Assessment and Evaluation

Assessment as/for/of Learning

It is the goal of the OCTE Elementary Committee to support their members in the development of these skills. This year the focus is on providing feedback (assessment for and as learning) using the Ministry's "Continuum for Technological Problem Solving Skills" (Science and Technology Grades 1-8, pp. 17-18) Please note that only the Ministry's "Achievement Chart -- Science and Technology, Grades 1-8" (Science and Technology Grades 1-8, pp. 26-27) is to be used for assessment of learning.

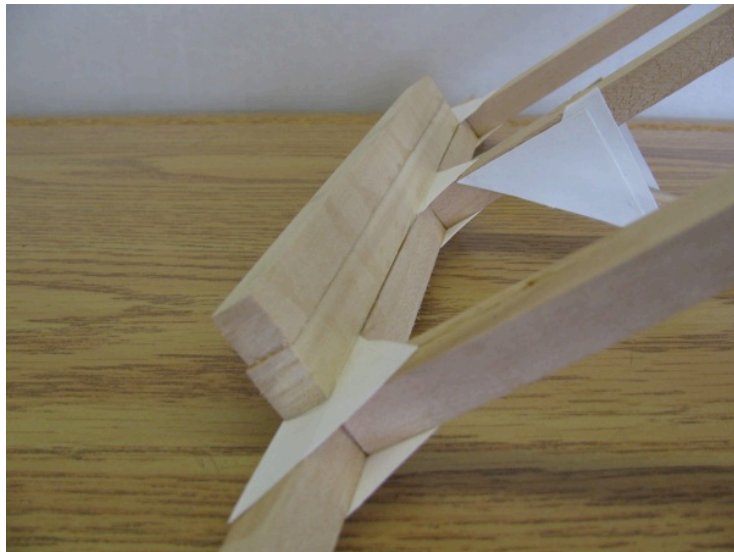
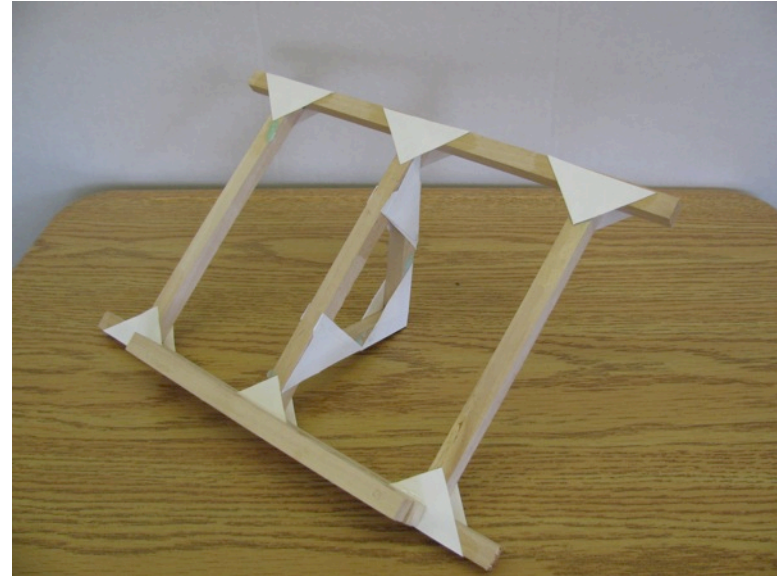
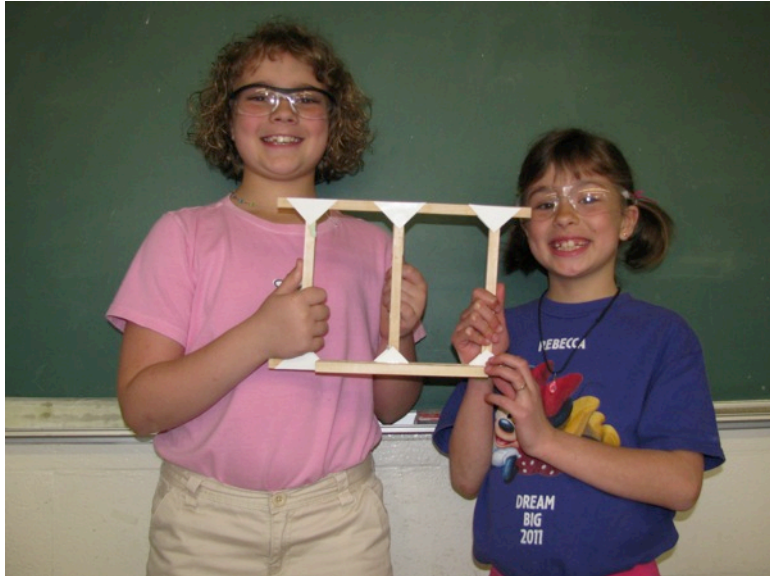
A summary of the three forms of assessment addressed in the Ministry of Education's Growing Success (2010) document is as follows:

- assessment for learning involves generating feedback about your students' progress that is shared with them before assessing for report card grades;
- assessment of learning is when you generate marks/levels for your report cards;
- assessment as learning, when developed fully, is when students provide their own feedback and assessment (peer and/or self) regarding their learning; students use this information to set learning goals, and to select appropriate learning strategies for their success.

Here are some suggestions to support the implementation of "Assessment as Learning" in your program; they are as follows:

1. Provide your students with a copy of "Appendix E: Assessment as Learning, Student Self-Assessment Log" and refer to applicable statements (see statements A-M) for discussion, before each of these items are addressed.
2. Ensure that the learning goal for each item is clearly understood by your students. Use student friendly language wherever possible.
3. Provide opportunities for self/peer assessment (move from structured to student directed as your students develop this skill).
4. Discuss or refer to successful and unsuccessful work (exemplars, or student generated materials) to provide benchmarks for your students' self/peer assessments.
5. Collect and review your students' "Assessment as Learning, Student Self Assessment Log." Make note of who needs additional support. Schedule time for these students into your next lesson (or provide opportunities for extra help, if possible).
6. Use your students' self/peer assessments to determine if a task requires modification to support successful learning.
7. Refer to pp. 27-36 in the Growing Success document for complete details. Reference: Ontario. Ministry of Education. (2010). *Growing Success: Assessment, Evaluation, and Reporting in Ontario Schools, First Edition, Covering Grades 1-12*. Toronto: Author. ISBN 978-1-4435-2284-7 (Print), ISBN 978-1-4435-2285-4 (PDF) (Rev.), ISBN 978-1-4435-2286-1 (TXT), © Queen's Printer for Ontario.

Appendix H: Samples



Photographs by: Darren Foy