

Games

Build-It Challenge

Grades K - 12

Making Caring Common

Caring Schools Network 2022 - 2023

Updated July 2022

Overview

The following game can be used regularly with students to promote teamwork and communication. Teachers might choose to use it at the start of each class or during a transition between lessons.

Recommended time

- Every other week, or as needed; choose the same game repeatedly or vary games

Materials and advance prep

- Easy to find materials such as: cotton balls, q-tips, string, paper clips, writing utensils, paper, recycled bottles and caps, tape etc.

Game Type

- Teamwork

Works well with...

- Listening Deeply, Humans of Your School, Everyday Gratitude

Description

Increase student collaboration and teamwork with a quick, build-it challenge! Break students into even groups and pass out materials. Using the same materials in each group is simpler, but not necessary. Instruct students to use the supplies you shared to create an item (a bridge, an elephant, a transportation device, etc.) in five minutes. You can choose the item students make or take student suggestions. When finished, have groups share their work. Students can vote on a winner. You can also have students reflect in groups or as a class by sharing what was unexpected, challenging, and fun about working on a team this way.

MCC Tip: Keep a ready stocked box of recycled materials in the classroom; students can add items throughout the week. To ensure the build-it challenge doesn't run into other class time, factor the cleaning time into the challenge and provide students verbal time markers. Make sure a timer is visible, so students can better manage their time.

(Source <https://www.signupgenius.com/school/icebreaker-activities-middle-school-high-school.cfm>)