

Spaghetti and Marshmallow Towers



See our Facebook page for more photos of this activity!

This is a very simple, but totally engaging activity, particularly if you set a goal, like making the highest tower or testing to see which can hold the greatest weight (although if you go for this option, be sure to take photos of the models first, as they will be tested to destruction!) It also ticks lots of boxes for EYFS.

Equipment:

- Uncooked spaghetti - you can stick with one basic sort, or if you wish to make things more educational, provide a range of lengths and thickness, to look at structural properties.
- Mini marshmallows
- Strawberry laces

Method:

1. If you are planning on making the construction a challenge, make sure that the children are fully aware of this before you start!
2. Explain that shorter lengths are stronger and less likely to break, and that it's best to start the construction by making a base, as this will give the tower some strength and rigidity. Triangles are the strongest shape, so you can make a base using a series of connected triangles. Alternatively, allow the children to work this out for themselves through trial and error!
3. Use the mini marshmallows as connectors to join the strands of spaghetti.
4. To make the joints more secure, lash them using the strawberry laces.
5. Allow the children to build the towers to their own design and award prizes for the tallest, strongest, most attractive, etc.

NB: There tends to be a natural conclusion to this activity, when the laces and marshmallows have all been ~~eaten~~ used up!

Areas of learning and development:

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| UW | Understanding the World |
| CL | Communication and Language |
| Math | Mathematics |
| EAD | Expressive Arts and Design |
| PSED | Personal, Social and Emotional Development |