



## Structural Engineering: MARSHMALLOW CHALLENGE (K-2)

### The SCIENCE of ENGINEERING:

A **structure** is something put together from other parts. This could be anything from a dog house to a space station!



An **engineer** can design, build or maintain just about anything!

**Structural Engineers** are responsible for building things like bridges and buildings.



### READ:

[The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs](#) by Jon Scieszka

- What do YOU think really happened?

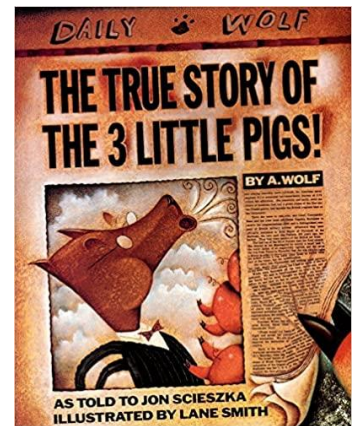
Don't have this book at home? You can watch and listen to the author [Jon Scieszka](#) read his work, or visit a digital library.

### ACTIVITY: MARSHMALLOW CHALLENGE

Materials: 20 pieces of uncooked spaghetti, 1 yard (3 feet) of masking tape, 1 yard (3 feet) of string or yarn, 1 marshmallow, measuring tape

This is a great FAMILY activity!

1. Take a few minutes to start planning out your design.
2. See how tall you a structure you can build using ONLY the given supplies in about 20 minutes.
3. You do NOT get extra or replacement supplies
4. The marshmallow must sit on the tower WITHOUT being damaged, tied or taped
5. Measure how high up is your marshmallow?



**What is happening?** This challenge was created for engineers to help them learn to think creatively and work in teams. Studies show kids in kindergarten come up with some of the tallest and coolest designs!

For an example of this activity, watch the video: [STEM Marshmallow Challenge](#)

*This at-home educational activity is from the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County's literacy-based Stories & STEM program. Stories & STEM is made possible with support from Prime Time Palm Beach County, Inc., which receives significant funding from the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County, Inc.*

*Having fun? Send pictures or video links of you and your Stories & STEM projects to [csharkey@literacyabc.org](mailto:csharkey@literacyabc.org)*