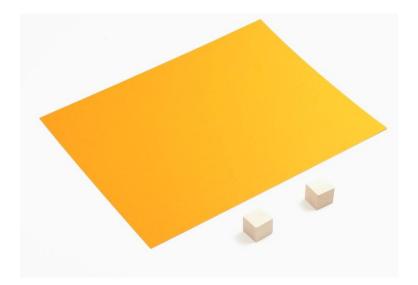
Activity 3.2 Instant Challenge: Paper Bridge

Introduction

Solving a problem is an amazingly creative process. Creativity can be messy. However, creativity can be channeled into a meaningful solution by using a structured design process. In this activity your team will design a solution to a problem using an engineering design process. You will document the process in your engineering notebook.

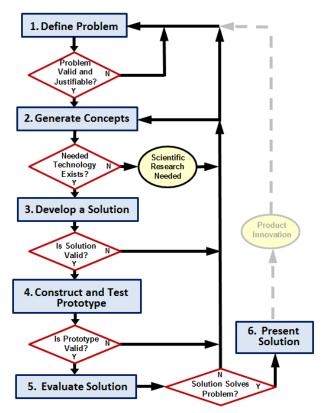


Equipment

- Engineering notebook
- Pencil
- ³/₄ in. wooden blocks (2)
- 1 sheet of 8 1/2 x 11 in. cardstock
- Assorted construction tools such as scissors

Procedure

- 1. Follow the direction of the teacher while completing this activity.
- 2. Use the design process learned earlier in this lesson. Document each step in your engineering notebook.



- 3. Design and build a product that maximizes the distance between two blocks which are connected by a continuous route of paper. The product must meet the constraints below.
 - a. The paper must form a continuous chain of connectivity from one block to another without touching the tabletop.
 - b. Paper-to-paper linkage will be considered continuous.
 - c. The two wooden blocks are ³/₄ in. wooden blocks.
 - d. Both blocks are at table height.
 - e. Card stock can be modified.
 - f. Additional material can be used during construction, but not on the final product.
- 4. The winning design meets the constraints above with the blocks farthest apart.

Conclusion

1. Why do you think brainstorming is helpful when solving a problem?

2. How did testing improve your design?

3. With respect to designing the solution of a problem, what are some important characteristics of a successful team?