



MESA Day Contest Rules

Sponge Activity

Event:	Paper Tower Contest
Level:	Senior High School
Type Of Contest:	Team
Composition of Team:	1-2 Students Per Team
Number Of Teams:	5 Teams Per Center
Sponsor:	

Overview: To build the tallest freestanding tower possible from a single sheet of 20 lb. Paper.

Materials: All materials supplied by Host Center.

- One piece of 8 ½ x 11-inch 20 lb. Paper
- One piece of ½ - inch x 1- foot scotch tape
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Pencil

Rules:

1. Each tower must be constructed from the paper and tape supplied by the Host Center. No other materials or substitutions are allowed.
2. Contestants have a 45-minute period in which to construct their towers. Any modifications made to tower after the allotted 45-minute period will disqualify the tower. Late arriving students may enter the contest at any time after the 45-minute period has begun; however, they must stop when everyone else stops. No extra time will be allotted to late starters.
3. Each tower must be free-standing; it must not be attached to, or lean against any other surface (e.g. floor, wall, desk, etc.).
4. Towers must stand for 10 seconds upon arrival of a judge.
5. During the contest, all students shall have equal access to all available materials.
6. Towers, whether standing straight/erect or sagging/curved, will be measured from the floor vertically to the highest point. Towers that curve or sag may not be straightened and then measured; they will be measured to the highest vertical point while sagging or curving.
7. Contestants must notify the judge when construction of their tower is completed. Then their tower will be judged and measured.

Judging:

1. Towers will be judged only once. In case of a tie, the shorter construction time will determine the winning team.
2. All contestants will start at the same time.

Awards:

1. First Place: Tallest tower that is completed.
2. Second Place: Next tallest tower.
3. Third Place: Next tallest tower.