

Lesson 8 Pegboard Erector Sets II: Building a Railroad Bridge II

Note: This lesson has not been tested.

Objectives: Students use what they learned in the previous lesson to improve the strength of their bridges.

Students experience the process of redesign and improvement of a completed (or nearly completed) project.

Materials: Started project and materials from previous class.

Sponge: Students write in their journals how they will improve their bridges to make them stronger.

Initial

Discussion: Ask students: How will you improve your design?

Stress importance of documentation. Students must write their plans in their journals before continuing with their projects.

Hand out group choice slips. Next project will last four class periods. Who would be a good person to have on your team? You might not work best with your best friend.

Project: Students continue to work on their bridges, creating the strongest bridge they can make with the materials. Students write in their journals what they did to make their bridges stronger.

Students draw their final projects in their journals.

Vocabulary:

Final

Discussion: Students show their bridges to the class. Ask: How was the second version of your bridge better than the first? What did you do to make your bridge strong?

Clean up: Take everything apart. Have students count nuts and bolts to be sure that none have been lost.

Home

Connection: Take home photograph of project and describe project to family. Bring back to school to include in notebook.