


Literacy-Based Making Activity: Paper Towers

Grade Level: 1st	Books: Three Little Pigs or Rapunzel
<p>Lesson Objective: Students build to tallest tower possible that resists being blown over by wind.</p> 	
<p>Topic/Theme: K–2-ETS1-2. Develop a simple sketch, drawing, or physical model to illustrate how the shape of an object helps it function as needed to solve a given problem.</p>	<p>1st Grade Units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcome to 1st grade - rules and procedures ● Fairy Tales ● Engineering Design
<p>Materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 7 - 10 pieces of 8.5x11” paper ● 1 meter of masking tape ● 1 piece of 4” x 6” cardboard (approx.) 	<p>Pre-Lessons Suggested (If any)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Read one of the fairy tales prior to the activity. ● Students can brainstorm ideas about what makes a structure strong and stable.
<p>Steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Read The Three Little Pigs with whole class 2) Whole class brainstorm - what makes a strong and stable structure? 3) Tell students that they will be creating the tallest tower possible (can be done individually or pairs) 4) Must be at least 11” tall. 5) Needs to be able to stand up when the teacher blows on it. (Decide if students can tape towers to tables or remain freestanding.) 6) Hand out available materials 7) Students build towers. 8) Teacher circulates, testing towers by blowing on them. 9) Share out (whole class, small group, gallery walk style, etc.) 	