

Lesson 3: Activity Sheet 1--EXPLORATION STATION

Building a Skyscraper: #1 Power in Numbers

1. Stand straws up vertically like the columns of a building. Try to balance a book on top of the straws. Draw a picture of what this looks like.

2. What happened? Why?

3. Now, tape sets of straws together. Try to balance the book on top of these. Draw a detailed picture of this.

4. What happened?

Building a Skyscraper: #2 Whatever the Weather

1. Aim the fan at the "tower." What happens?

2. Shake the desk with the tower on it. What happens?

4. Use the materials at your station to keep the tower from falling when the desk is shaken, or from blowing over when the fan is on. Explain how you changed the tower.

Building a Skyscraper: #3 Hard Hats Only

Using the materials at your station, build the tallest structure possible.

1. How tall is it? _____

2. What was the most difficult thing about building it?

3. What did you do to make your structure taller?

4. How did you keep your structure from falling over?

Building a Skyscraper: #4 Blocks in Socks

1. Using the blocks at your station, build the tallest tower possible. Measure it, or count how many blocks tall it is.

2. Now, using the sock(s) at your station, see if you can make a more stable structure, one that is less likely to fall down. Did it work? Explain what you did.

