

Building Out

Names _____

Can you defy gravity? Yes! With a cantilever! A cantilever is a projecting structure that is only attached or supported at one end.

The challenge for this activity is to build a structure that projects as far as possible from the edge of the table without ever touching the floor.

Specifications:

- Only one half box of spaghetti noodles can be used.
- Tape must be used in moderation. Overuse will result in disqualification.
- Pencils, scissors and rulers cannot be used as part of the structure.
- No part of the structure can touch the floor.

Procedure:

1. Discuss the task with your partner.
2. Divide up the spaghetti noodles with the other group at your workstation.
3. Choose a starting point on the table and begin construction.
4. When time is up, take two measurements: the total length of the structure from table to tip and the distance between the floor and the tip of the structure.

Record results below

Our cantilever was _____ cm long.

The tip of our cantilever was _____ cm from the floor.