

London Bridge is Falling Down

A Rising Stars!® Task-Based Instant Challenge
Team Copy

Challenge: Try to BUILD a bridge to stretch across the opening in a box, and then see if your London Bridge will fall when balls rain down.

Time: You will have 8 minutes to build London Bridge. Then you will have 2 minutes to see if London Bridge will fall when you drop marbles and ping pong balls onto it.

Procedure: You will have 8 minutes to build London Bridge. This bridge needs to stretch across the opening at the top of the cardboard box using only the materials listed below. What materials will you use? How will you build your bridge? What balls will you drop to see if London Bridge will fall down?

Part 1 (8 minutes):

- During the first 8 minutes, you will build a bridge that will go across the opening at the top of the cardboard box.
- Remember to build London Bridge so it is strong enough to be hit with marbles and ping pong balls and remain in place.
- When your 8 minutes is done, it is time to put London Bridge across the box opening and to see if London Bridge will fall down.

Part 2 (2 minutes):

- During your 2 minutes, you should see how many marbles and ping pong balls can be dropped onto London Bridge without it breaking.

Materials:

- 1 piece of tin foil
- 4 chenille stems
- 2 craft sticks
- 1 piece of paper
- 4 mailing labels
- 2 note cards
- 4 pieces of string
- 1 cardboard tube
- 2 straws

Remember! Your team should try to . . .

- A. Build London Bridge so that it stretches across the opening at the top of a box.
- B. Try to build the bridge to be strong so it doesn't fall down.
- C. Drop as many marbles and ping pong balls onto London Bridge.
- D. Make sure everyone gets to help build the bridge or drop the balls.



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Appraiser Copy

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A Task-Based Instant Challenge for Rising Stars!®

For the Appraisers only:

Notes:

1. Make sure you have 10 ping pong balls (same ones being used in Colorful Communication) and 10 marbles to be dropped.
2. The cardboard box can be a paper or banker's box (same one being used in TransFORMATION).
3. The bridge should be built across the shorter dimension (approximately 12 inches) of the box opening.
4. To make harder; decrease building time or materials.
5. Teams will practice how to build a device that fulfills a spatial requirement and is sturdy enough to withstand impact.
6. How did your team do? Make sure you take the time to debrief your team by asking your team these questions:
 - A. Was your bridge strong? What would make it stronger?
 - B. Did you listen to each other?
 - C. Did you work together and share the materials?
 - D. Did each member do something to help?



Team Assessment

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Evaluators: Place a mark along the continuum for the assessments. This process will help the team see where its strengths lie, as well as areas for discussion and improvement. (Source for this page's content: Minnesota Destination Imagination, <http://www.mndi.org>)

1. Did the solution match what the team was asked to do in the challenge?

Not complete.	Finished, but just barely.	Finished with time to spare, and time to rehearse.
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2. Did the team develop a well-organized plan of action to solve the challenge?

Were disorganized. Did not make a plan.	Sort of knew what they wanted to do and how.	Jumped right in on a plan and carried it out with flair.
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3. Was the team aware of time-management issues and constraints?

Time flew and team didn't realize it.	Was aware of the time and tried to use it well.	Monitored time, worked efficiently and had time to think.
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4. Did team members interact and depend on each other?

They were individuals, wanting own way; dominators.	Looked to each other for ideas and support.	Fed off each other and multiplied the outcome; each felt great at the end.
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5. Did everyone in the Instant Challenge participate?

A couple of strong voices; others were invisible.	Most participated and added to the challenge.	Each member played a role and was affirmed for it.
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6. Did the team listen and follow directions?

Not completely; jumped to conclusions and wasted time.	Knew what they had to do; knew what was expected.	Follow to a "T" . . . played the game with confidence!
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7. Was the solution creative/unique?

Predictable, obvious solution.	Tried to change the obvious to unusual application/outcome.	One-of-a-kind; out-of-the-blue; clever.
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8. How creatively did the team use the materials provided?

Predictable and expected use of the components.	New twists to some common items.	Off-the-wall uses for items; items showed outstanding skill or knowledge of team members.
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Comments (use reverse if necessary):

