

# ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PASTA BRIDGE GUIDELINES and RULES

## Objective:

Build the strongest bridge possible using only store bought pasta and white Elmer's glue.

## Materials:

- Store bought pasta
- White Elmer's glue

## Guidelines and Rules:

- **The bridge must be made ahead of time. No materials will be provided on the day of the event.**
- Teams are limited to three people.
- Only one entry per team.
- Team name, school and division must be represented on the bridge by a sign affixed to it or legibly marked on the bridge.
- Bridge must be checked in at the entry table to be measured and weighed for disqualification. Bridges that are disqualified can still participate but will not be counted towards the awards.
- The bridge will be judged on a power factor basis.  
$$\text{Power Factor} = \text{Weight of Bridge} / \text{Weight of Sand at Failure}$$
- Bridges will be considered to have failed when judged to be at failure.
- Only store-bought pasta and White Elmer's Glue may be used to make the Bridge. (No Elmer's Wood Glue)
- Bridges must weigh between **1 and 4 lbs.** (this is to make the load testing fair)
- Bridge Dimension Limits are between **22** (twenty two) inches and **26** (twenty six) inches long, between **4** (four) and **6** (six) inches wide, and it cannot exceed **6** (six) inches high.
- If the bridge is going to have a superstructure such as a truss system above the level of the deck then the bridge must have space with dimensions of **2"x4"** at the center of the bridge so the load can be applied to the center of the bridge.
- Throughout the bridge only **4 (four) layers** of lasagna noodles may be used. They can be spaced throughout the thickness of the bridge, BUT ONLY 4 layers of lasagna will be allowed.
- The span between the tables will be approximately **20** inches.
- **NO** painting the bridges.

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