



EGG DROP CHALLENGE

Materials you need:

- Carton of raw eggs
- A collection of materials to combine together with the purpose of protecting the egg from breaking. You might like to try soft material scraps, bubblewrap pieces, cardboard boxes, baskets, straws, containers from the recycle bin.
- Rolls of duct tape

Setup for play:

- Divide the children into teams of 3-4 each (or whatever works for your numbers).
- Give each team an even number of the construction materials you have collected and 1 roll of duct tape. Pass out an egg to each team.
- Explain that their aim is to work together to build a protective shield that will stop the egg from breaking open when dropped from a height of around 1.5 -2 metres.
- Give each team 30 minutes to draw up a design and work on their creations and ideas.
- Make sure to separate the teams so they are not too close to each other. This will help prevent copying of ideas.
- Come back together after 30 minutes to test the structures by dropping from a designated height (I advise outside or put some drop sheets or a tarp down first!). ask the teams to describe their design and thinking behind it before dropping.
- The winner is the team that manages to keep their egg intact after the drop. If there is more than one obvious winner you will need to make a decision based on the team that used the least amount of materials!

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What are they learning with this activity?

As the children construct and experiment they are learning to:

- Work together in a group with others
- Listen to and follow directions
- Identify variables that can be changed in an experiment.
- Use hand/eye coordination skills and demonstrate spatial awareness
- Strengthen fine motor muscles and control
- Coordinate and strengthen their large muscles as they bend, stretch, turn.
- Explore simple scientific concepts through play and observation
- Manipulate objects to explore motion, cause and effect
- Compare the effects of different materials, shapes, and forces.
- Explore, infer, predict and problem solve

Extending the play:

- Ask the children to write down what they think worked and what didn't. How would they draw their design for a second attempt? Provide measuring tapes, pens, pencils and blank paper.
- Watch [this you tube video](#) after the 2nd challenge attempt for some easy ideas and tips to build the best structure and why they will work.

