

## **Family Science Activity 10.7.20**

### **Spaghetti Towers**

<https://www.rigb.org/families/experimental/spaghetti-towers> - to watch the video

The activity:

- Make a tower from spaghetti and marshmallows.
- Experiment with the construction of your tower to find out which shapes are best for building with.
- Learn why some shapes are more stable than others when you build a tower.

[https://www.rigb.org/docs/spaghettitowers\\_infosheet\\_0\\_1.pdf](https://www.rigb.org/docs/spaghettitowers_infosheet_0_1.pdf) - for the full information on the activity and questions to ask your child(ren)

#### **You will need:**

Packet of spaghetti (uncooked) • Packet of marshmallows

#### **What to do:**

Challenge a child or children to use marshmallows (whole ones or pieces) to join lengths of spaghetti together to make the tallest tower possible. You could start by building a simple cube and seeing what you need to do to make a taller structure that remains standing.

#### **Going Further challenge:**

- Instead of building a tall tower, you could try to build the strongest bridge from spaghetti and marshmallows.
- You could limit the amount of spaghetti and number of marshmallows to make the task more difficult.
- You could give children a budget with which to 'buy' spaghetti and marshmallows and make the 'cost' of the tower another element they have to consider.
- Try out this interactive 'shapes' lab to see how forces affect different shapes:  
<http://bit.ly/ShapesLab>

**Have fun!**