

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

Straw Tower Mini-Activities 1 & 2

Mini-Activity 1: *One-Straw Tall Tower*

Your design challenge: Following the steps of the engineering design process, figure out the best way to keep one straw held up tall using the fewest number of straws and no more than 5 cm of tape.

1. **Imagine:** Draw your design solution for how you would keep one straw up by using the fewest amount of additional straws and no more than 5 cm of tape. Label the materials used.

For this design, how many additional straws do you need? _____



2. **Plan:** Are you selecting your design solution or your partner's design solution?

Circle one: mine partner's

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3. **Improve:** After seeing what your classmates have created, draw a new and improved design.



Mini-Activity 2: No “Fishing Pole”

Your design challenge: Make the longest straw pole possible without it becoming like a “fishing pole,” where the straw bends at about 45 degrees.

1. Number of straws to make a straw pole before it creates a “fishing pole”: _____