

## STRAW RAFT

**Items Needed:** Each team needs: 10 drinking straws, a roll of masking tape (or you can give them a certain # of inches), and a pair of scissors to cut the straws. You will also need 1 or 2 pans with about 1 inch of water in them and 100 pennies.

Give each team seven minutes to design and build a raft. They may only use the straws and masking tape that they were given. The object is to build the raft so that it will hold the most pennies before sinking. When they are finished, they are to bring the raft up to the pan of water for the “official float.” Do not let them try to see how well they float before the “official float.” The team members themselves will take pennies and place them one at a time on the raft. They may put the pennies anywhere on the raft that they want to. They will keep adding pennies, one at a time, until the raft goes under water. The total number of pennies on the raft before it sank is their official total.

