



Pretzel & Marshmallow Structure

Introduce your kids to “edible engineering,” using pretzels and marshmallows to build two and even three-dimensional structures. Creative learning has never tasted so good!

Fun Facts/Information:

- National Pretzel Day is celebrated each year on April 26.
- Hard pretzels were invented in the late 1600s, when a snoozing apprentice in a Pennsylvania bakery accidentally over-baked his pretzels, creating crunchy, seemingly inedible, knots. His job was spared when the master baker, attempting to criticize, took an angry bite out of one, and loved it.
- S'mores, a delicious marshmallow treat, first appeared with a recipe in a 1927 handbook called *Tramping and Trailing with the Girl Scouts*.
- Ligonier, Indiana is the marshmallow capital of the world.
- Marshmallows expand in a vacuum because of the small air bubbles in them.



Objective:

- Students will use pretzels and marshmallows to build different structures.

Materials:

- Marshmallows
- Pretzel sticks

Procedure:

- Gather materials.
- Explore how the pretzels and marshmallows link together by gently pushing one end of the pretzel stick into a marshmallow.
- Try building a flat, two-dimension shape, like a triangle or a square.
- Then try tackling a three-dimensional structure, like a triangular prism or a cube.
- Experiment with other shapes or structures.

Extensions:

- Here is a challenge: Using 20 marshmallows and 30 pretzel sticks, build the tallest tower that you can.
- When you are finished, measure how tall your tower is.