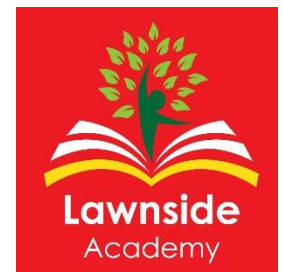


Lawnside Academy  
Lawnside  
Biggleswade  
Bedfordshire  
SG18 0LX

Website: [www.lawnsideacademy.org.uk](http://www.lawnsideacademy.org.uk)  
Telephone: 01767 312313  
E-mail: [LSA-office@bestacademies.org.uk](mailto:LSA-office@bestacademies.org.uk)



Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023

# British Science Week 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

In celebration of Science Week, we have a fun filled week planned for all children at Lawnside. We will be celebrating Science Week during 2<sup>nd</sup> May - 5<sup>th</sup> May. This year, the British Science Week theme is based on the topic 'Connections'. We have some really exciting events planned. We have already had a visit from Sublime Science and the children (staff too!) had a great time.

## Science Week Timetable

- A professor from Cambridge University will be coming to visit on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May
- Kapla will be coming to us on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May. Although it is a voluntary **contribution of £5**, we do need this funding so that we can provide the children with these extra-curricular experiences. The payment is still available on Parentmail.

## Family Fun

This year, we would like all Lawnside families to be involved with science week. We would like for you all to become investigators. Use your enquiry skills to help you investigate, question and solve.



**Asking questions**

Asking questions that can be answered using a scientific enquiry.

**Making predictions**

Using prior knowledge to suggest what will happen in an enquiry.

**Setting up tests**

Deciding on the method and equipment to use to carry out an enquiry.

**Observing and measuring**

Using senses and measuring equipment to make observations about the enquiry.

**Recording data**

Using tables, drawings and other means to note observations and measurements.

**Interpreting and communicating results**

Using information from the data to say what you found out.

**Evaluating**

Reflecting on the success of the enquiry approach and identifying further questions for enquiry.



**We would like you to investigate the activity 'Bridge Blunder' with your family.**

# BRIDGE BLUNDER

This activity is designed to get you thinking about the connections between weights, forces and measures.

Check out our video demonstration here:

[bsa.sc/YouTube-CREST-Bridge-blunder-demonstration](https://bsa.sc/YouTube-CREST-Bridge-blunder-demonstration)

Can you build a model bridge that supports heavy weights?

45 – 60 minutes

Skill set: Creative, Imaginative, Logical



## Kit list

A4 paper

Weights or other equipment to act as 'weights' (like coins, blocks)

Blocks or similar to create the gap for the bridge – or gap between chair and tables

Sellotape



## Instructions

You are going to test the best design for a bridge. Think about which shapes are the strongest.

- 1 Using paper and a small amount of tape, make your bridge. You can cut, roll, or fold the paper if you wish. This is not your final bridge, just a way to try out your ideas!
- 2 Test your bridge with weights. Think about how to make this a fair test; does it matter where you put the weights?
- 3 Record the maximum weight your bridge could hold. What could you change to make the bridge stronger?
- 4 Using your findings from the first test, make one final model and test with the weights again.
- 5 Show your bridge to the rest of the class. You could take pictures and add notes about what you think might make your bridge stronger and more stable.

## Watch out

- Avoid weights falling from a height.
- If bridges are high, you will need a bucket of sand or cardboard box filled with crumpled paper underneath to catch falling weights.

## Next steps

This activity is one of the CREST SuperStar challenges. Why not try some of the other fun activities here: [primarylibrary.crestawards.org/#SuperStar](https://primarylibrary.crestawards.org/#SuperStar)

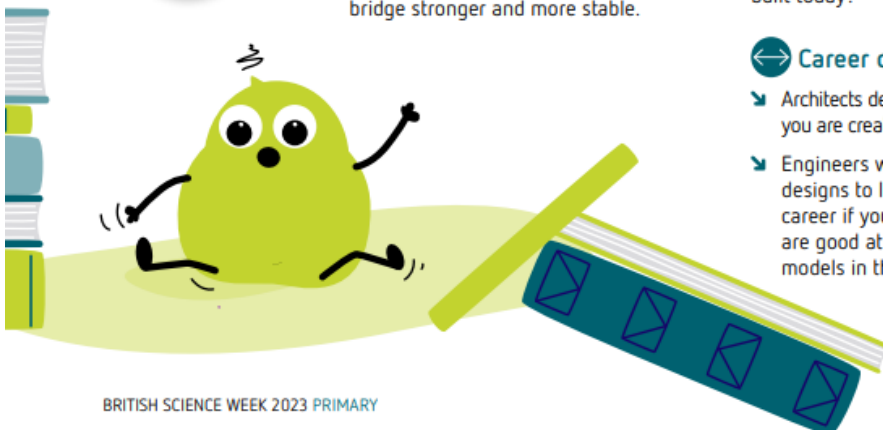
If you are an adult wanting to run CREST Awards with your pupils, visit the website for advice on how to get started: [crestawards.org](https://crestawards.org)

## At home

What did people in ancient times use to build bridges? How does this compare to bridges built today?

## Career options

- Architects design bridges and buildings, if you are creative this could be the job for you!
- Engineers work out how to bring these designs to life. This could be a great career if you like problem solving and are good at making things, such as the models in this activity.



You can use anything you have at home to make a model bridge. Please draw your design, take photos and videos, and above all remember to have fun! Please email photos and videos to [zsalvatore@bestacademies.org.uk](mailto:zsalvatore@bestacademies.org.uk) by Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May.

Something to think about: How could you change your design to make the bridge stronger? Does the length of the bridge make a difference to how well your bridge works?

Maybe you could find a bridge and take photos of it. How has it been made? What material is it made from?

What was the UK's first bridge? Can you find out where the longest bridge in the world is?

### **Scientists and Inventors**

At Lawnside, a key aspect to each half term is our focus on a scientist or inventor linked to our topic area. Please take the time to have a look at some inspirational scientists and inventors.

[Smashing Stereotypes: The profiles - British Science Week](#)

### **Useful information**

wowscience.co.uk

[www.natgeokids.com/uk](http://www.natgeokids.com/uk)

Thank you in advance for your support in helping us celebrating science at Lawnside.

Mrs Salvatore

Science Lead Teacher