



A Stevens Creek Elementary School Makerspace Program

Cranberry Structure

Note to Parent Mentors/Teachers

Before starting the project, please make the following announcements / instructions:

- Introduce the project and show a sample of the finished product.
- Ask what they know about cranberries, before sharing fun facts with them:

Fun facts about cranberries:

1. One of the few fruits that are native to North America (it's the continent where we live!)
2. They are called "superfruits" because of all the nutrients they have, like Vitamin C (meaning, they're really good for your health!)
3. They are approximately 90% water (they have air pockets that make them buoyant!)

- Students need to work at their tables and stay in their seats until the project is done.
- Keep the cranberries and toothpicks in the bowls or their plates. This is to avoid cranberries ending up on the floor and being stepped on.
- Do not eat the cranberries. *Have students repeat this line.*
- Do not play with the toothpicks. *Have students repeat this line.*
- Once their structure is built, they can do one of two things:
 1. Be done and keep their structure on the plate.
 2. Test their structures for durability (highly encouraged). Reflect on their design and revise, as necessary.

Setting up instructions:

- Give each student a paper plate* and a napkin.
**Because some paper plates maybe too waxy that markers or crayons won't work, put a piece of masking tape to write their names on.*
- Use bowls to distribute the cranberries and toothpicks. One set of two bowls per table of 4 students should be enough. Replenish the materials as necessary.

Challenge activities:

- Students can test their structure's durability by placing different items on top of their structure. For instance, a notebook, box of crayon, glue sticks or light books.
 - If their test fails, work with them on how to make their structures sturdy.
Hint: Look for weak points.
- Students can also create another structure (if time allows) with a more complex shape.