

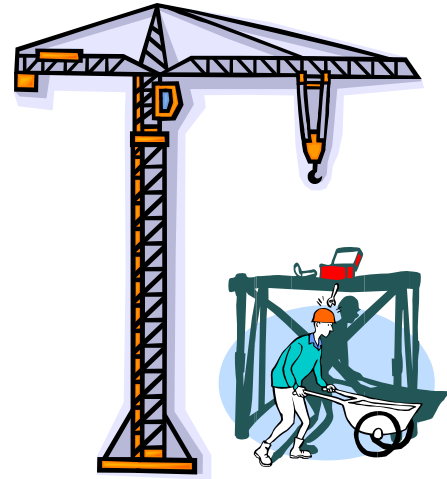
Truss Structures

Balsa Structure Design Activity

Situation

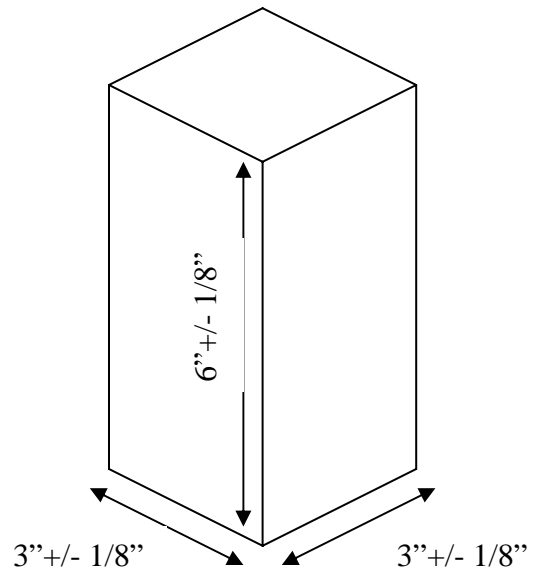
Truss structures can be found in many situations. Some examples include bridges, cranes, roller coasters, buildings, and scaffolding.

Design and construct a balsa wood structure that will hold the largest static load.



Resources

Time	5 class periods
People	Up to three per group
Energy	Human
Information	Suggested research topics: truss, load, etc.
Money	None
Tools	X-acto Saws
Materials	Four 36" lengths of 1/8" x 1/4" balsa wood, white Elmer's glue
Space	The structure must be rectangular and conform to the dimensions shown in the diagram to the right



Other Criteria

- The structure must not have a mass greater than ____ grams.