

2026 Planning Guide



Ways That Role Models Can Inspire Students!

1. Talk to them about careers in engineering.
→ [Learn more about Messages Matter.](#)
2. Build their STEM confidence as you lead engineering activities with them.
→ [Get tips on facilitating activities.](#)
3. Introduce them to engineers and technical professionals.
→ [Watch Chats with Change Makers.](#)
4. Share career information.
→ [Visit DiscoverE's Engineering Careers Site.](#)
5. Organize an engineering event.
→ [Download the Discover Engineering Event Toolkit.](#)
6. Challenge students to design a city that can exist 100 years in the future.
→ [Participate in Future City.](#)

Recommended Engineering Activities

170+ Free Activities

- Leader Notes
- Student Instructions
- Challenge Videos
Role models introduce the challenge and the engineering design process!

Balloon Bust (Grades 3–8)

Design a way to land a water balloon, intact, from a height of 25 feet (or as high as your space can safely allow!)

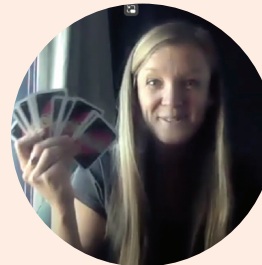


Action Contraption (Grades 3–8)

Using everyday materials, build a chain reaction machine, inspired by Rube Goldberg, that successfully performs a simple task.

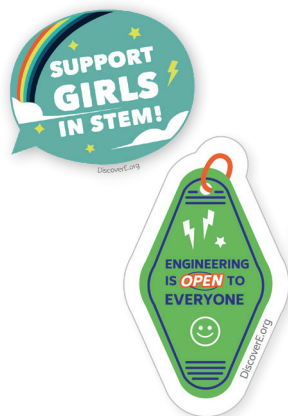
Critical Load (Grades 3–8)

Using only 12 playing cards, design a flat-topped structure that supports as much weight as possible without collapsing.



Resources for Your Events and Programming:

T-shirts • Bookmarks • Stickers • Certificates • Social Media Graphics & Posts • Logos • [More!](#)



5 Powerful Messages to Share

- Engineering is open to everyone.
- Engineering is a well-paying profession.
- Engineering makes a difference in people's lives.
- Engineers are creative problem-solvers.
- Engineers work in teams with smart inspiring people.

[Learn more!](#)