STEAM NIGHT – *Engineering Activity*
Building Cup Pyramids

**ACTIVITY OVERVIEW:**

Engineering doesn’t have to be complicated. Use a simple plan and common tools to see if you can work as a team to construct a cup pyramid.

**WHAT DOES THIS SCIENCE ACTIVITY HELP US LEARN?**

Engineers and construction crews must work together to make their visions become reality. Using simple tools and your communication skills, see if you can construct a cup pyramid.

NGSS Standard: 3-5-ETS1-1 to 1-3

Grade Levels: 3-5

**MATERIALS (per group):**

6-12 Plastic cups, a rubber band with four pieces of string tied onto them

**STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Work in pairs or groups of four.
2. Each person grabs a string and uses it to move the cups by opening and closing the rubber band.
3. Stack the cups in a pyramid shape.
4. If time allows try to stack the cups in another way—
   a. Stack them bottom to bottom and top to top
   b. See how high you can stack cups
HOW CAN I DO THIS AT HOME WITH MY CHILD?

This is easy to do at home! It’s a great rainy day activity or way to inspire teamwork among siblings.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

http://tryengineering.org/play-games
http://www.eie.org/engineering-adventures/curriculum-units
https://www.teachengineering.org/mostpopular
http://www.stemmom.org/2012/10/building-wind-turbines-engineering-lab.html
http://lemonlimeadventures.com/recycled-marble-run/#_a5y_p=1357270
http://leftbraincraftbrain.com/engineering-201-diy-recycled-suspension-bridge/
http://pbskids.org/games/engineering/
http://www.nextgenscience.org