

Building bridges

To develop students' prior knowledge and experiences, use lengths of string or rope and teach students how to tie different types of knots, such as fisherman's, reef, granny, figure eight, bowline, half hitch, and clove hitch. Identify the different uses for each knot.

Working in groups of four to six, students construct a bridge between two trees or posts, using strong ropes 11–25 millimetres thick.

The objective of the activity is to get the whole group across the bridge without anyone touching the ground .

After completing the activity, each person in the group shares what the personal challenges were for them and how they felt about participating in this activity .

Variations and extensions to this activity could include:

- Specifying which knots are allowed to be used

Assessment Opportunities

- Using observation, assess students' levels of confidence in undertaking this activity
- Students indicate the degree of satisfaction they feel about participating in this activity .