



Professional Engineers  
and Geoscientists of BC  
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The Central Interior Branch of APEGBC  
and The Exploration Place  
are proud to present **the 9th annual**  
  
**Ultimate Bridge Building Contest**  
**March 4, 2006**

The goal of the contest is to **construct the strongest bridge** possible with a maximum 100 Popsicle sticks and white glue. A matchbox car must be able to traverse the bridge on a construction paper deck; otherwise the design of the bridge is left up to the competitor. The testing process will find the **ultimate breaking strength of your bridge**.

There will be draw prizes for all participants - you must be present to win. There will be awards for the top three bridges in each age category, as well as a prize for the most attractive design.

**All ages are welcome to participate in this popular annual event!**

Category/Event	Registration Start	Registration Close	Event Start	Minimum 1 <sup>st</sup> Prize
Opening Ceremonies (for all)			12:15 pm	
Elementary* (under 13 years old)	10:00 am	12:00 pm	12:30 pm	\$50.00
Secondary (13 to 18 years old)	10:00 am	1:30 pm	2:00 pm	\$50.00
Adult (19 years and older)	10:00 am	2:15 pm	2:45 pm	\$50.00
Open **	10:00 am	2:45 pm	3:15 pm	\$50.00

*\*Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult at all times*

*\* Note that schedule may change based on the number of participants*

*\*\*Category reserved for those people who have expertise in Popsicle Bridge Construction*

For more information contact:

Nicola Focht, 562-1612 ext 225, [bookings@theexplorationplace.com](mailto:bookings@theexplorationplace.com)  
Or Don Williams, 614-7291, [dwilliams@allnorth.com](mailto:dwilliams@allnorth.com)

# Ultimate Bridge Building Contest Rules and Notes:

## Bridge Construction:

1. The bridge must be built with a maximum of 100 popsicle sticks and **all purpose white glue or Bond Fast glue. No other glues are acceptable, including carpenter's glue.**
2. Popsicle sticks must be left whole.
3. A matchbox car must be able to be rolled across the bridge.
4. The bridge must span a 500mm gap.
5. Bridges will be inspected at registration. Any violations of the rules outlined above will result in disqualification from the official results, but the contestant(s) will still be allowed to unofficially load the bridge.

## Testing the Bridges:

1. The bridges will be loaded from the bridge deck, which must be +/- 20 mm from the level of the abutments of the loading frame. There are two abutment levels (upper and lower - see the attached sketch). A beam will be placed across the deck and attached to a hanger connected to a loading device below the bridge.
2. All contestants and officials within the loading area must wear protective eyewear (provided).
3. The contestant (or a parent in the elementary class) will load their own bridges. The winner is the bridge that held the largest load prior to failure.
4. **All bridges will be destroyed during testing !!!!!!!!!!!**

## Teams:

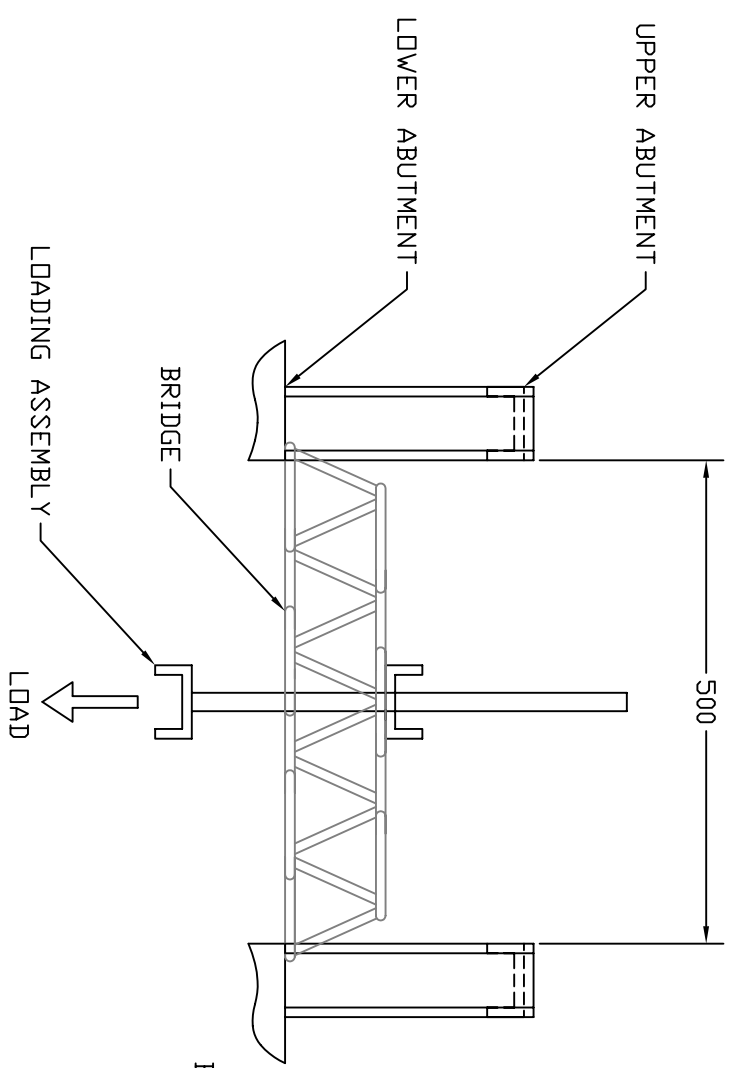
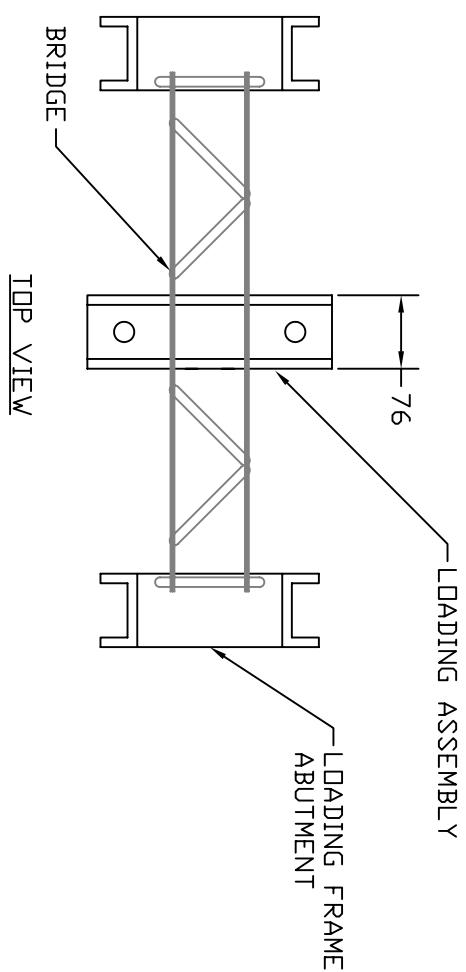
1. **The oldest team member will be used to decide the team's age category.**

## 9th ANNUAL POPSICLE BRIDGE STICK CONTEST

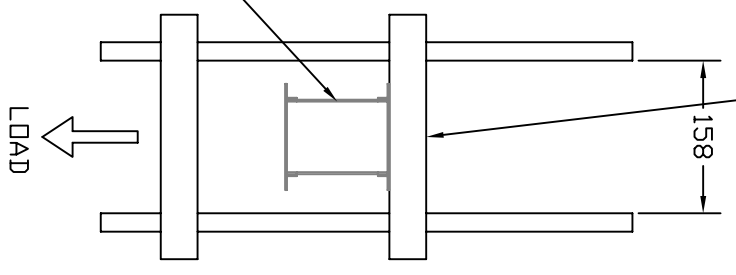
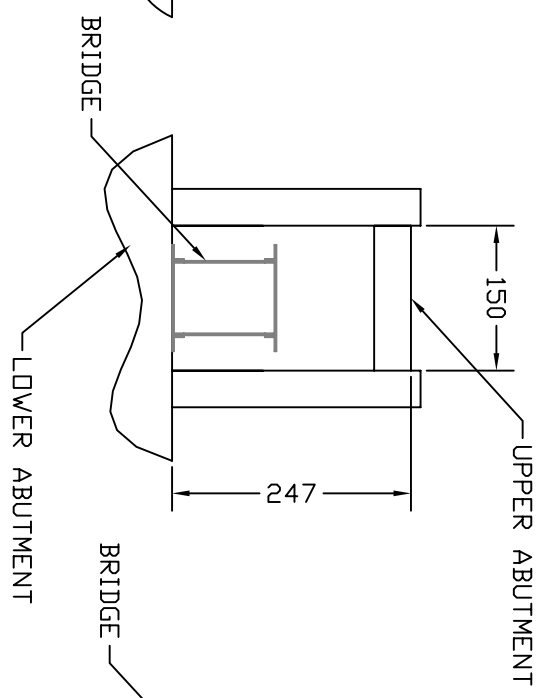
Here are some notes regarding the contest. Remember if you have any questions please feel free to contact the Museum at 562-1612.

1. The contest will be held March 4, 2006 in the Atrium of The Exploration Place at the Fraser-Fort George Regional Museum in Fort George Park. Registration will begin at 10AM.
2. Popsicle sticks must remain whole. If your bridge does not fit into the loading frame, some sticks may be cut to get the correct fit. The cutting will be done under the supervision of an event organizer on the day of the event just before loading.
3. If you win, or place in your category, the popsicle sticks in your bridge may be counted. IF YOU EXCEED 100, it will result in disqualification. Some participants construct bridges with significantly less than 100 popsicle sticks because of the fear of being disqualified. Count the sticks prior to construction to ensure you have no more than 100. Every popsicle stick counts.
4. Check the library and websites for some good references that can help you build the winning bridge and illustrate different design principles.
5. Start early as you will have to build the bridge in steps. It would be difficult to build it in one go due to the varying orientations of surfaces to be glued. This also allows sufficient time for the glue to cure.

Have Fun !!!!!!!!!!!



LOADING ASSEMBLY



NOTE: THE BRIDGES CAN BE SUPPORTED BY EITHER THE UPPER OR LOWER ABUTMENTS  
ALL DIMENSIONS IN MILLIMETERS