

The Ultimate Playground- Program Highlights



Grade: 3

Length: 2 hours

Student Booklet: Yes

Number of volunteers requested: 4-5 (Can be run with 1-2 volunteers not including teacher and presenter)

Please refer to www.tpet.ca for a complete list of SLE's covered in this field trip!

Volunteer English Language Proficiency: In this field trip, the parent volunteers help a small group of students as they complete their challenges and building. All levels of English Language Proficiency work for this field trip.

Introduction:

- Welcome – Presenter tells the students they will each be **designing, building, and testing** their own Ultimate Playground!

Making a Me:

- Students make a “me” out of clay as a tester for the “Spanning the Gap Experiment” and for their playground.

Spanning the Gap Experiment:

- Students work in their groups to conduct an experiment using their “me”. Students are given various challenges to work on in their groups.

Review Strong Shapes by Creating a Spanned Gap:

- Presenter **reviews why cylinders, arches, and triangles are strong shapes.**

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Materials:

- Presenter shows materials that can be used.
- Presenter **reviews what a fastener is and shows fasteners that can be used.**
- Presenter explains and shows tools that can be used.

Criteria:

- Class discusses the **meaning of criteria.**
- Presenter explains the criteria for building The Ultimate Playground using a poster or Notebook Page.

Activity:

- **Students design, build, and test their playground.**

Closing activity:

- Students go on a final Ultimate Playground tour.
- Discuss challenges students had building their playgrounds, structures they saw in others' playgrounds that they liked and why etc.

