



Name: _____

The Class Challenge

One day at Reeds Spring Elementary School, Mrs. Schade's Makerspace class was excited because it was time for the big "Class Challenge." Mrs. Schade told the students that they would be building a tall tower using only paper and tape. The goal was to see which group could build the tallest tower.

Mrs. Schade split the class into four groups. Each group was given a stack of paper and some tape. The students were eager to start!

Group 1 started working quickly. Everyone wanted to be in charge, and they all talked at the same time. One student wanted to roll the paper into tubes, but another thought folding it into squares would work better. They couldn't agree, and their tower kept falling.

Group 2 had one student, Bob, who wanted to do everything. He thought he had the best ideas and didn't let anyone else help. The other students felt left out and just watched Bob. Their tower wasn't very tall because Bob couldn't do everything by himself.

Group 3 was working well together at first, but then they stopped talking to each other. They didn't share their ideas, and each student started building their own part of the tower. In the end, their pieces didn't fit together, and the tower was short and wobbly.

Group 4, however, was different. They started by listening to each other's ideas. Sam suggested rolling the paper into tubes, and Sarah said they could use the tape to connect the tubes. Alivia thought of using the folded paper to make a strong base. They all worked together, helping each other with the folding and taping. When someone needed help, another student jumped in to assist. Slowly but surely, their tower grew taller and taller.

When the time was up, Mrs. Schade asked each group to show their towers. Group 1's tower had fallen down, and Group 2's was small because Bob had done everything alone. Group 3's tower was uneven and shaky. But Group 4's tower was the tallest and the strongest.

Mrs. Schade smiled. "Do you see what happened? Group 4 worked together and listened to each other. When you work as a team, things get done more easily and more successfully."

The students realized that working together and sharing ideas made everything better. From then on, whenever there was a new challenge, they knew teamwork was the best way to succeed.



Name: _____

1. What is the theme of this story? _____

2. What caused problems for group 1? _____

3. Why was group two's tower small? _____
