



Engineering Design Process Explored by Students

Students in 5th Grade at Washington Elementary have been working on an engineering unit in their Science class. They have been focusing on the five steps of the engineering design process: ask, imagine, plan, create, and improve.

As a part of the unit, students were asked to put this design process into action at home by creating an apparatus that would protect an egg from a 13 foot drop. Students used the honor system to follow the rules and to ensure a fair competition.

They were only allowed to use materials that they had around their house with no going to the store to purchase materials; the apparatus had to be made by them, not their parents; and it had to be small enough to fit inside a milk crate.

Some projects were more successful than others, but each student enjoyed designing and dropping their apparatus. It was a great experience for the students to use their creative, critical thinking, and problem solving skills!

