



Griffith Quarry Student Activity

Build it Challenge

Griffith Griffith opened three quarries in California during his lifetime. Granite from these quarries were used in small local projects, but also California landmarks. Chunks of granite were blasted into the quarry pit and then hauled to the work sheds to be cut and shaped. Later, they were shipped via the Central Pacific Railroad.

**Try to reconstruct the projects and shapes below with materials found around your home. Be creative!
Try to make your structure stable. You can test your structure's strength by putting objects on top!**

Recommended Materials:

Cereal Boxes
Egg Cartons
Empty Bottles & Cans
Empty Plastic Containers
Paper or Cardboard Scraps
Paper Towel & Toilet Paper
Tubes

Additional Materials:

Glue
Markers
Scissors

Building Vocabulary:

Plinth:

A continuous course of stones supporting a wall.

Sill:

A horizontal piece at the base of a window or at the bottom of a door.

Quoin:

Corner stones that anchor the edge of a building's wall.

Lintel:

Horizontal beam or stone over a window or door.

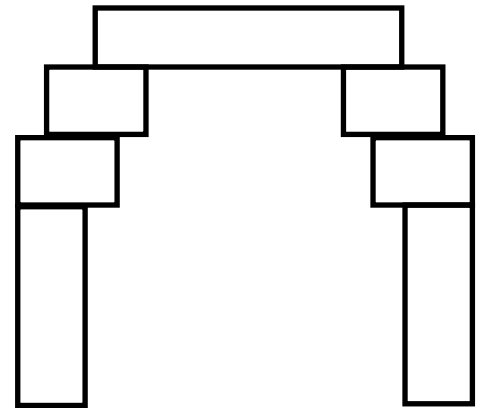
#1: Can you build a doorway or an arch?

This is the basement of the Old San Francisco Mint. Four-foot-thick blocks of Griffith granite were used to build the foundation.



#2: Can you build a bridge?

How much weight can your bridge support?



#3 Can you build a pyramid?

Can you find something to decorate the top of your pyramid?

