

# Card Towers Together - Levels F-3

# PLAY

Provide students with a hands-on challenge that promotes resilience, communication, and teamwork through building with cards.



## Learning Intentions

Strengthen fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination.

Develop patience, persistence, and problem-solving skills.

Build teamwork, cooperation, and reflection on group effort.



## Success Criteria

Students work respectfully together to build a tower.

Students encourage and support each other through successes and challenges.

Students reflect on what worked well as a team.



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**Duration:** 5 minutes

**Objective:**

Provide students with a hands-on challenge that promotes resilience, communication, and teamwork through building with cards.

**Gameplay:**

- Students work in pairs or small groups with a deck of cards.
- Their challenge is to build the tallest card tower possible in 5 minutes.
- If the tower falls, groups are encouraged to stay calm, support each other, and try again.
- Teachers model encouraging language, e.g., "Let's try again" or "Great teamwork."
- At the end, groups share how they felt during the challenge and what they learned about working as a team.
- Allow students to build their card towers leaning against a wall if you wish to make the activity easier.

**Debrief:**

Reflect on teamwork, persistence, and encouragement.

Prompts:

- "What did your group do well when building the tower?"
- "How did you help each other when it was hard?"
- "What can you do next time to make your teamwork even better?"

**Variations**

**Children's Edition:**

- Allow groups to decorate a "flag" to place on their tower when finished.
- Join the two groups together to combine their towers for a cooperative challenge.

**Fitness Edition:**

- Each time the tower falls, groups complete 5-star jumps or stretches before rebuilding.

**Teamwork Edition:**

- Make it a relay: each student adds one card at a time before tagging the next teammate.
- Builds patience and turn-taking.



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## For Wheelchair Users / Accessibility

- Place towers on a table at the correct height for easy reach.
- Provide sturdier or laminated cards to make placement easier.
- Adapt group roles so all students can participate (e.g., one holds the base, one adds cards).

## Notes for Inclusion

- Encourage both verbal and non-verbal encouragement (clapping, thumbs up, smiling).
- Allow extra time or simpler structures for some groups if needed.
- Celebrate effort, persistence, and encouragement, not just tower height.
- Provide opportunities for peer modelling of patience and supportive behaviour.

## Additional Notes:

This activity builds persistence, teamwork, and reflection in a calm and hands-on way. It encourages students to practice patience, solve problems creatively, and celebrate group effort. It can be easily adapted for all abilities, ensuring every student feels included and successful.

