

Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will be able to create a cardboard gingerbread house while applying basic math skills, exploring scientific concepts of structure and balance, and expressing creativity through art.

Materials and Prep

- Cardboard (from old boxes or packaging)
- Scissors (with adult supervision)
- Glue (or tape)
- Markers or crayons for decoration
- Ruler for measuring
- Pencil for drawing

Before starting the lesson, ensure that the student understands basic shapes and measurements. Review how to use scissors safely and how to measure with a ruler.

Activities

- **Design Your House:**

The student will sketch their gingerbread house design on paper, deciding on the shape, size, and decorations. This helps with planning and creativity.

- **Measure and Cut:**

Using the ruler, the student will measure and cut out the cardboard pieces needed for the walls, roof, and base of their house. This reinforces math skills through measuring and cutting accurately.

- **Assemble the House:**

The student will use glue or tape to assemble the cardboard pieces into a house structure. This activity focuses on following instructions and understanding how different parts fit together.

- **Decorate Your House:**

The student will use markers or crayons to decorate their gingerbread house, adding details like windows, doors, and candy decorations. This encourages artistic expression and imagination.

Talking Points

- "What shape do you think our house should be? A square, rectangle, or something else?"
- "How can we make sure our house is strong and won't fall down?"
- "Why do you think we need to measure our cardboard? What happens if we don't?"
- "Can you think of any real houses that look like the one you are making?"
- "What colors do you want to use for your decorations? Why do you like those colors?"
- "How do you feel when you see a gingerbread house? What do you want people to feel when they see yours?"
- "What was your favorite part of making the gingerbread house? Why?"