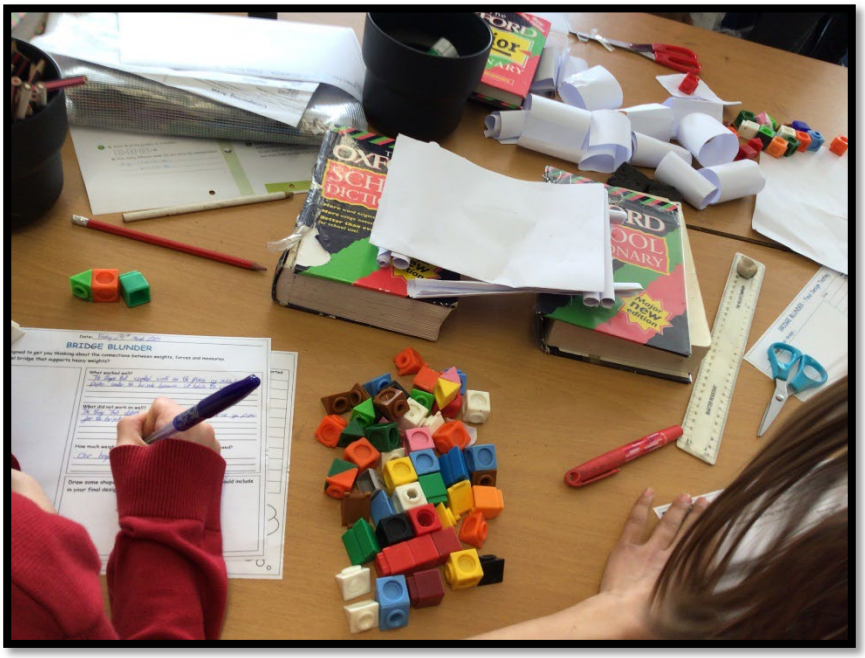
Carpenter Class Science Week 2023 Report

Activity – 'Bridge Blunder'

As part of Science Week 2023, Carpenter Class completed a 'Bridge Blunder' experiment, which got the children to think about the connections between weights, forces and measures.

At the beginning of the activity, the children looked at videos showing some of the world's most famous bridges (i.e. The Golden Gate Bridge, Tower Bridge, Viaduc de Millau) and then discussed their shapes, structures and the materials they were built from. Using the knowledge they had gained, the children had to design a prototype model bridge that supported heavy weights, using only 5 pieces of A4 paper and a short piece of Sellotape. They could fold, cut or roll their paper into any shapes they chose, however, their bridge had to span a minimum distance of 10cm.

Once the children completed their prototype, they tested to see how strong it was, by adding 100g weights to it, one at a time. From the analysis of their tests, the children then designed their final bridge, which was then tested against other groups' bridges in the class to see whose design was best and why.


BRIDGE BLUNDER