

RITE NOW @ ROP



Over the past two weeks, the student athletes at Lake Granbury Youth Services have been studying geometric shapes and the relative strength they have in construction of buildings, three-dimensional shapes, and in bridges. During his life, Leonardo Da Vinci designed a construction technique for the military by which the soldiers could build bridges over streams and rivers that used no woodworking or carpentry skills, and the materials needed to create a bridge could be carried in by the soldiers. Once the bridge was no longer needed, it could be easily torn down and the materials reused. This bridge used only poles or boards woven together to form an archway connected in such a way that no nails or other connectors were needed. It is lightweight and can easily support much more weight than the bridge itself.

The students at Lake Granbury Academy first built models of the bridge using dowel rods. The next day, the students went outside to build a larger model using fifteen 2x4 boards and a little sweat. As illustrated in the photographs, the bridge held together allowing students, coaches, and even our principal to cross over the bridge. The project was a great success and allowed the students to work together to confirm that Da Vinci's bridge model to be a fast and inexpensive way to build a bridge!
