

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Period \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

## STRAW HOUSE PROBLEM

1. What is the problem in the story?
2. What was the students' hypothesis? In other words, what did they think they could use to solve their problem?
3. How did they test their hypothesis?
4. What was the control group?
5. What were the experimental groups?
6. What was the variable?
7. What results did they obtain?
8. What was their conclusion?
9. How did they communicate their results?



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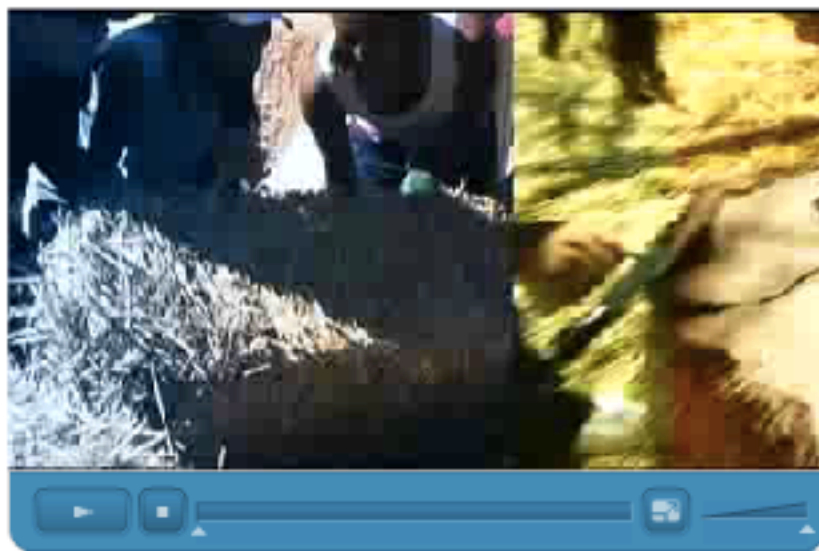
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## EPISODES



### Straw House by Brenett, Kim, Lucretia and Omney

We belong to Montana's Crow Nation. We love our reservation, but there aren't enough houses. We need to find a cheap way to build durable homes. There's straw all over the place, so we did some experiments to see if straw bales could be used to build a house.

#### What did we do?

We grabbed three building materials for our test: a plain straw bale, a straw bale covered in stucco and a cinderblock. First, we tested each block with a blowtorch and checked for burning, cracking and melting. Then we tested each sample to see if it was a good insulator by placing a thermometer on the back and heating the front with a blowtorch. Finally, we stuck a cloth in each of the blocks and let them soak in a stream for an hour to see if they were waterproof.

#### What did we find out?

We found out that straw alone burned right away and wasn't waterproof, but it was a pretty good insulator. The cinderblock was fireproof and waterproof and didn't transfer heat at all. Straw with stucco didn't burn, either. Plus, it was waterproof and didn't transfer heat. So we concluded that straw with stucco could make a durable, affordable building material. We'll use this method to build our reservation's new community center. Raise the roof! (By the way, our science project won the Bayer/National Science Foundation's National Championship Award!)