



The Hat Rack



Practice Instant Challenges



developed by



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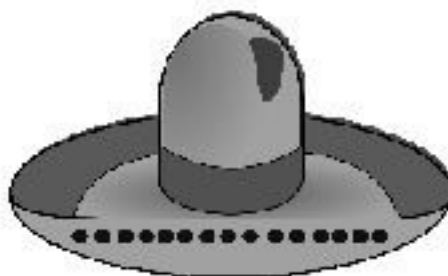


Table of Contents

Performance-Based *Instant Challenges*:

Hat Tricks.	4
Passing the Hat Through Time & Place.	7
Home Is Anywhere You Hang Your Hat.	10

Task-Based *Instant Challenges*:

Passing the Hat.	13
Hats Off and On.	18
Hold On to Your Hat.	21
Hat Save.	24

Note: Although the *Instant Challenges* in this booklet were developed specifically for a straw “beachcomber” type of hat, the illustration on the cover suggests that other types of hats may be used, with completely different results.

For best results, begin with the performance-based *Instant Challenges*. The nature of these challenges is such that by the time your team has completed the task-based ones, the hat will no longer be wearable. With each task-based *Instant Challenge*, there is less hat left!

Experiment with your team, and have fun!

TEAM COPY

Hat Tricks

A Performance-Based *Instant Challenge*

Challenge: Your challenge is to prepare and PRESENT a skit about using a hat to save the day.

Time: You will have 5 minutes to use your IMAGINATION to plan your skit and 2 minutes to PRESENT your skit.

The Scene: Your parents gave you a household chore to complete before they return home. Just when you decide to do your chores, you find that the tool you need is missing. Time is running out and the only thing available to use is your hat. Present a story about the chore you need to do and how you manage to complete your task using your hat.

Materials:

- The hat may be used in your skit, but may not be damaged.
- Paper and pencil to plan your story/skit.
- All other props must be imaginary.

Scoring: You will receive

- A. Up to 20 points for how complete your story is
- B. Up to 20 points for creative use of the hat
- C. Up to 20 points for the creativity of your performance
- D. Up to 20 points for how well your team works together

Hat Tricks

A Performance-Based *Instant Challenge*

Challenge: Your challenge is to prepare and PRESENT a skit about using a hat to save the day.

Time: You will have 5 minutes to use your IMAGINATION to plan your skit and 2 minutes to PRESENT your skit.

The Scene: Your parents gave you a household chore to complete before they return home. Just when you decide to do your chores, you find that the tool you need is missing. Time is running out and the only thing available to use is your hat. Present a story about the chore you need to do and how you manage to complete your task using your hat.

Materials:

- The hat may be used in your skit, but may not be damaged.
- Paper and pencil to plan your story/skit.
- All other props must be imaginary.

Scoring: You will receive

- A. Up to 20 points for how complete your story is
- B. Up to 20 points for creative use of the hat
- C. Up to 20 points for the creativity of your performance
- D. Up to 20 points for how well your team works together

For the Appraisers only:

Debrief:

1. Did you develop a clear story with a beginning, middle & end?
2. Did your performance show all the things required in the challenge?

3. Did you clearly show your imaginary props in your performance?
 - What techniques did you use to show something that is not really there?
4. How creative was your team in developing your idea?
5. How clear was your delivery? Were you loud enough? Did you have good voice changes? Good gestures?
6. How well did your team work together in the planning and during the presentation?
 - Did one team member keep track of the time?
 - Did one team member keep track of challenge requirements?
 - Did one team member keep everyone organized?
 - Did all team members contribute?

TEAM COPY

Passing the Hat Through Time & Place

A Performance-Based *Instant Challenge*

Challenge: Your challenge is to create and tell a STORY about different characters in different places, all with the one hat in common.

Time: You will have 5 minutes to use your IMAGINATION to develop your story, and 2 minutes to PRESENT your story.

The Scene: Some things always seem to show up in different times and places. That is the case with this hat. Develop a story showing several different characters using this hat. Each character finds the hat in a particular time and place. After the character uses the hat, it ends up in a new place. The next character finds the hat in that place, but in a new time. After using the hat, it will again end up in a new place. The story continues in the same way.

Materials:

- The hat, may not be damaged.
- All other props and sets are imaginary.
- Paper and pencil, for planning the story.

Scoring: You will receive

- A. Up to 5 points for the creativity of each character's use of the hat
- B. Up to 5 points for the creativity of each transition in the story
- C. Up to 20 points for the creativity of your performance
- D. Up to 20 points for how well your team works together

Passing the Hat Through Time & Place

A Performance-Based *Instant Challenge*

Challenge: Your challenge is to create and tell a STORY about different characters in different places, all with the one hat in common.

Time: You will have 5 minutes to use your IMAGINATION to develop your story, and 2 minutes to PRESENT your story.

The Scene: Some things always seem to show up in different times and places. That is the case with this hat. Develop a story showing several different characters using this hat. Each character finds the hat in a particular time and place. After the character uses the hat, it ends up in a new place. The next character finds the hat in that place, but in a new time. After using the hat, it will again end up in a new place. The story continues in the same way.

Materials:

- The hat, may not be damaged.
- All other props and sets are imaginary.
- Paper and pencil, for planning the story.

Scoring: You will receive

- A. Up to 5 points for the creativity of each character’s use of the hat
- B. Up to 5 points for the creativity of each transition in the story
- C. Up to 20 points for the creativity of your performance
- D. Up to 20 points for how well your team works together

For the Appraisers only:

Debrief:

1. Did you develop a clear story with a beginning, middle and end?

or

Did you develop a clear situation to present?

2. Did your performance show all the things required in the challenge?
3. Did you clearly use the hat prop in different ways and show your imaginary places in your performance?
 - What techniques did you use to show something that is not really there?
4. How creative was your team in developing its idea?
5. How clear was your delivery? Was it loud enough? Did you have good voice changes? Good gestures?
6. How well did your team work together in the planning and during the presentation?
 - Did one team member keep track of the time?
 - Did one team member keep track of challenge requirements?
 - Did one team member keep everyone organized?
 - Did all team members contribute?

TEAM COPY

Home Is Anywhere You Hang Your Hat

A Performance-Based *Instant Challenge*

Challenge: Your challenge is to prepare and PRESENT a skit about the desirable features of a particular home.

Time: You will have 5 minutes to use your IMAGINATION to plan your skit, and 2 minutes to PRESENT your skit.

The Scene: You are a master real estate agent. Imagine that this hat is large enough to be a dwelling. Describe the features that would make this hat appealing to its potential inhabitants.

Materials:

- The hat may be used in your skit but may not be damaged.
- Paper
- Pencil/pen/markers

Scoring: You will receive

- A. 1 point for each hat feature included in your skit
- B. Up to 5 points for creative habitat use of each hat feature
- C. Up to 20 points for the creativity of your performance
- D. Up to 20 points for how well your team works together

Home Is Anywhere You Hang Your Hat

A Performance-Based *Instant Challenge*

Challenge: Your challenge is to prepare and PRESENT a skit about the desirable features of a particular home.

Time: You will have 5 minutes to use your IMAGINATION to plan your skit, and 2 minutes to PRESENT your skit.

The Scene: You are a master real estate agent. Imagine that this hat is large enough to be a dwelling. Describe the features that would make this hat appealing to its potential inhabitants.

Materials:

- The hat may be used in your skit but may not be damaged.
- Paper
- Pencil/pen/markers

Scoring: You will receive

- A. 1 point for each hat feature included in your skit
- B. Up to 5 points for creative habitat use of each hat feature
- C. Up to 20 points for the creativity of your performance
- D. Up to 20 points for how well your team works together

For the Appraisers only:

Debrief:

1. Did you develop a clear situation to present?
2. Did your performance show all the things required in the challenge?
3. Did you creatively use the materials as your props?

4. How creative was your team in developing its idea?
5. How clear was your delivery? Was it loud enough? Did you have good voice changes? Good gestures? Did everything—props and story—fit together?
6. How well did your team work together in the planning and during the presentation?
 - Did one team member keep track of the time?
 - Did one team member keep track of challenge requirements?
 - Did one team member keep everyone organized?
 - Did some work on the props while others planned the presentation?
Did they communicate?
 - Did all team members contribute?

TEAM COPY

Passing the Hat

A Task-Based *Instant Challenge*

Challenge: Your TASK is to design tools that can be used to pick up objects and place them into the hat as the hat is passed along the line.

Time: You will have 10 minutes to use your imagination to DESIGN and CONSTRUCT your tools and to practice with them. After practice time, all objects must be returned to their spots within the triangle, and the hat must be centered on point A. Then you will have 3 minutes to pick up the items, place them in the hat, and move the hat along the line to point B.

Set-up: A triangle, ABC, is marked on the floor. The hat will be moved along the slanted line AB of the triangle. Objects that need to be placed in the hat are inside the triangle. All objects inside the triangle are marked with numbered pieces of tape and sit on matching numbered pieces of tape within the triangle. Team members must be outside the base of the triangle, line AC, and may not reach across that line with any part of their body.

Procedure: Using the materials provided, make at least 3 tools that can be used to move objects from inside the triangle to inside the hat. The tools also need to be used to move the hat along line AB a measurable distance before another object is placed inside the hat. The team may decide in which order objects are placed inside the hat. The goal is to place as many objects inside a hat that must move to point B before time runs out.

Materials:

Objects placed inside the triangle:

- Feather, coin, marble, cup, string, etc

Materials that can be used for construction of tools:

- Straws, paper clips, string, toothpicks, aluminum foil, craft sticks, adhesive labels, plastic spoons, etc.

Scoring: You will receive

- A. 10 points for successfully moving the hat from point A to point B
- B. 5 points for each object successfully placed in the hat
- C. Up to 20 points for how creatively or effectively you use the materials
- D. Up to 20 points for how well your team works together

Passing the Hat

A Task-Based *Instant Challenge*

Challenge: Your TASK is to design tools that can be used to pick up objects and place them into the hat as the hat is passed along the line.

Time: You will have 10 minutes to use your imagination to DESIGN and CONSTRUCT your tools and to practice with them. After practice time, all objects must be returned to their spots within the triangle, and the hat must be centered on point A. Then you will have 3 minutes to pick up the items, place them in the hat, and move the hat along the line to point B.

Set-up: A triangle, ABC, is marked on the floor. The hat will be moved along the slanted line AB of the triangle. Objects that need to be placed in the hat are inside the triangle. All objects inside the triangle are marked with numbered pieces of tape and sit on matching numbered pieces of tape within the triangle. Team members must be outside the base of the triangle, line AC, and may not reach across that line with any part of their body.

Procedure: Using the materials provided, make at least 3 tools that can be used to move objects from inside the triangle to inside the hat. The tools also need to be used to move the hat along line AB a measurable distance before another object is placed inside the hat. The team may decide in which order objects are placed inside the hat. The goal is to place as many objects inside a hat that must move to point B before time runs out.

Materials:

Objects placed inside the triangle:

- Feather, coin, marble, cup, string, etc

Materials that can be used for construction of tools:

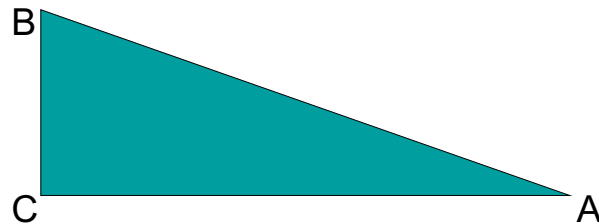
- Straws, paper clips, string, toothpicks, aluminum foil, craft sticks, adhesive labels, plastic spoons, etc.

Scoring: You will receive

- A. 10 points for successfully moving the hat from point A to point B
- B. 5 points for each object successfully placed in the hat
- C. Up to 20 points for how creatively or effectively you use the materials
- D. Up to 20 points for how well your team works together

For the Appraisers only:

Set-up: A triangle, ABC, is marked on the floor. The hat will be moved along the slanted line AB of the triangle. Objects that need to be placed in the hat are inside the triangle. All objects inside the triangle are marked with numbered pieces of tape and sit on matching numbered pieces of tape within the triangle. Team members must be outside the base of the triangle, line AC, and may not reach across that line with any part of their body. The difficulty of this challenge can be increased or decreased by changing the size of the triangle.



Debrief:

1. Did you succeed in all the things required in the challenge?
2. Creativity is not always important in this type of challenge. Usually the most direct solution is the best. If creativity is included, it is usually in the use of the materials. Did you use the materials in an unusual way?
3. Did you make efficient use of the materials?

4. How well did your team work together in the planning and during the presentation?

- Did one team keep track of the time? Did you finish in time?
- Did one team member keep track of challenge requirements?
- Did one team member keep everyone organized?
- Did all team members contribute?

TEAM COPY

Hats Off and On

A Task-Based *Instant Challenge*

Challenge: Your TASK is to construct a weight-bearing tower using the hat and other materials provided.

Time: You will have 10 minutes to use your imagination to BUILD and practice putting weights on your tower. You will have 2 minutes to test your tower structure with weights.

Procedure: Design a weight-bearing tower. Your construction materials must come from the hat and other materials provided. The hat plus at least 3 different materials must be used.

Each time a material is added to the hat, an equal length of actual hat material must be removed from somewhere on the hat.

The weights must be placed at least two inches higher than the original height of the hat brim or crown, whichever is greater. (The hat is lying on the table.)

Materials:

- Hat
- Paper clips
- Spaghetti
- Straws
- Toothpicks
- Pipe cleaners
- Other items as available
- Scissors may be used as a tool, but may not be part of the structure

Scoring: You will receive

- A. 5 points for each inch high the weight is placed x the number of ounces of the weight
- B. Up to 20 points for how creatively or effectively you use the materials
- C. Up to 20 points for how well your team works together

Hats Off and On

A Task-Based *Instant Challenge*

Challenge: Your TASK is to construct a weight-bearing tower using the hat and other materials provided.

Time: You will have 10 minutes to use your imagination to BUILD and practice putting weights on your tower. You will have 2 minutes to test your tower structure with weights.

Procedure: Design a weight-bearing tower. Your construction materials must come from the hat and other materials provided. The hat plus at least 3 different materials must be used.

Each time a material is added to the hat, an equal length of actual hat material must be removed from somewhere on the hat.

The weights must be placed at least two inches higher than the original height of the hat brim or crown, whichever is greater. (The hat is lying on the table.)

Materials:

- Hat
- Paper clips
- Spaghetti
- Straws
- Toothpicks
- Pipe cleaners
- Other items as available
- Scissors may be used as a tool, but may not be part of the structure

Scoring: You will receive

- A. 5 points for each inch high the weight is placed x the number of ounces of the weight
- B. Up to 20 points for how creatively or effectively you use the materials
- C. Up to 20 points for how well your team works together

For the Appraisers only:

Set-up: Ahead of time, weigh the materials in ounces for the items being used as weights.

Debrief:

1. Did you succeed in all the things required in the challenge?
2. Creativity is not always important in this type of challenge. Usually the most direct solution is the best. If creativity is included, it is usually in the use of the materials. Did you use the materials in an unusual way?
3. Did you make efficient use of the materials?
4. How well did your team work together in the planning and during the construction?
 - Did one team keep track of the time? Did you finish in time?
 - Did one team member keep track of challenge requirements?
 - Did one team member keep everyone organized?
 - Did all team members contribute?

TEAM COPY

Hold On to Your Hat

A Task-Based *Instant Challenge*

Challenge: Your TASK is to build a structure that would protect a ping-pong ball from being blown away.

Time: You will have 10 minutes to use your imagination to BUILD and practice with your structure. Then the structure will be tested.

Procedure: Design a structure to protect the ping-pong ball from wind. Your building materials must come from the hat provided. The hat may not be used in its original form or condition. No other materials may be used for the structure.

Position your structure as needed to protect the ping-pong ball from the wind of the fan. The ping-pong ball must be 10 inches in front of the fan.

Test your structure by having the fan blow directly onto it. Time how long it takes for the ping-pong ball to move past a line that is 20 inches away from the fan.

Materials:

- Hat
- Scissors may be used as a tool, but may not be part of the structure

Scoring: You will receive

- A. 5 points for each second it takes for the ping-pong ball to move 10 inches (maximum of 50 points)
- B. Up to 20 points for how creatively or effectively you use the materials
- C. Up to 20 points for how well your team works together

APPRAISER COPY

Hold On to Your Hat

A Task-Based *Instant Challenge*

Challenge: Your TASK is to build a structure that would protect a ping-pong ball from being blown away.

Time: You will have 10 minutes to use your imagination to BUILD and practice with your structure. Then the structure will be tested.

Procedure: Design a structure to protect the ping-pong ball from wind. Your building materials must come from the hat provided. The hat may not be used in its original form or condition. No other materials may be used for the structure.

Position your structure as needed to protect the ping-pong ball from the wind of the fan. The ping-pong ball must be 10 inches in front of the fan.

Test your structure by having the fan blow directly onto it. Time how long it takes for the ping-pong ball to move past a line that is 20 inches away from the fan.

Materials:

- Hat
- Scissors may be used as a tool, but may not be part of the structure

Scoring: You will receive

- A. 5 points for each second it takes for the ping-pong ball to move 10 inches (maximum of 50 points)
- B. Up to 20 points for how creatively or effectively you use the materials
- C. Up to 20 points for how well your team works together

For the Appraisers only:

Set-up:

1. Instead of a ping-pong ball, you can substitute a cotton ball, a feather or other lightweight object.
2. Ahead of time, adhere 2 lines of tape to a flat surface, 20 inches apart.
3. Position a fan so that the blades are 10 inches behind one taped line.
4. Set the ping-pong ball directly in front of the fan on the first taped line.

Debrief:

1. Did you succeed in all the things required in the challenge?
2. Creativity is not always important in this type of challenge. Usually the most direct solution is the best. If creativity is included, it is usually in the use of the materials. Did you use the materials in an unusual way?
3. Did you make efficient use of the materials?
4. How well did your team work together in the planning and during the construction?
 - Did one team keep track of the time? Did you finish in time?
 - Did one team member keep track of challenge requirements?
 - Did one team member keep everyone organized?
 - Did all team members contribute?

TEAM COPY

Hat Save

A Task-Based *Instant Challenge*

Challenge: Your TASK is to construct a rope that could be used to pull up a weight.

Time: You will have 10 minutes to use your imagination to BUILD and practice with your rope. Then the rope will be tested.

Procedure: Design a rope to pull up a weight. Your construction materials must come from the hat provided. The hat may not be used in its original form or condition. No other materials may be used for the rope.

Attach your rope to the weight. Place the weight on one level and stretch the other end of the rope to a higher level.

Pull on the rope until the weight is on the higher level. Only the rope may be between the weight and the level to which it is to be raised.

Materials:

- Hat
- Scissors may be used as a tool, but may not be part of the rope

Scoring: You will receive

- A. 1 point for each inch vertically the weight is moved without the rope breaking x the number of ounces of the weight
- B. Up to 20 points for how creatively or effectively you use the materials
- C. Up to 20 points for how well your team works together

Hat Save

A Task-Based *Instant Challenge*

Challenge: Your TASK is to construct a rope that could be used to pull up a weight.

Time: You will have 10 minutes to use your imagination to BUILD and practice with your rope. Then the rope will be tested.

Procedure: Design a rope to pull up a weight. Your construction materials must come from the hat provided. The hat may not be used in its original form or condition. No other materials may be used for the rope.

Attach your rope to the weight. Place the weight on one level and stretch the other end of the rope to a higher level.

Pull on the rope until the weight is on the higher level. Only the rope may be between the weight and the level to which it is to be raised.

Materials:

- Hat
- Scissors may be used as a tool, but may not be part of the rope

Scoring: You will receive

- A. 1 point for each inch vertically the weight is moved without the rope breaking x the number of ounces of the weight
- B. Up to 20 points for how creatively or effectively you use the materials
- C. Up to 20 points for how well your team works together

For the Appraisers only:

Set-up:

1. Ahead of time, weigh the weight in ounces.

2. Determine what you will use as the lower level and the higher level.
3. Watch carefully to make sure that no part of any team member's body is between the weight and the higher level to which it is being lifted; only the rope may be between the weight and the level to which it is raised.

Debrief:

1. Did you succeed in all the things required in the challenge?
2. Creativity is not always important in this type of challenge. Usually the most direct solution is the best. If creativity is included, it is usually in the use of the materials. Did you use the materials in an unusual way?
3. Did you make efficient use of the materials?
4. How well did your team work together in the planning and during the construction?
 - Did one team keep track of the time? Did you finish in time?
 - Did one team member keep track of challenge requirements?
 - Did one team member keep everyone organized?
 - Did all team members contribute?