Risk Assessment /Risk control - The Observatory Science Centre Herstmonceux

Activity	**BRIDGE BUILDING TEAM CHALLENGE**
Area	**Geodesic Domes, Outside areas or Science Station**
Who is at risk?	**Employees, public, volunteers, visitors**

Compiled by (print) **Sandra Voss** **(sign)** .....

Hazard Identified	Likelihood (L,M,H)	Severity (L,M,H)	Risk (L,M,H)	Workplace precaution(s)	Requirements for risk control systems	Review Required If:
Floors – Slips, trips and falls	**L**	**M**	**M**	Ensure that all floors are dry and not slippery before the challenge begins	Slippery floor safety signs when necessary Mop and dry any wet areas	
Construction of Truss bridge. Trapped fingers/toes Splinters Back injury from lifting Blows to the head	 **L** **L** **L** **L**	 **M** **L** **M** **M**	 **M** **L** **M** **M**		SAFETY TALK warning of the dangers about the wood and metal parts of the bridge and how to carry the pieces. Constant adult supervision at all times. Inspection of equipment for obvious problems, correct lifting procedures The challenge will be immediately stopped if any actions deemed unsafe by the supervisor are being carried out by participants.	Different bridge used

Likelihood: The chance of the hazard or event actually occurring during the life of the exhibit.

High (H): Could happen frequently
Medium (M): Could happen occasionally
Low (L): Could happen, but only rarely

Severity: The extent of the harm (injury or ill health) should the hazard occur.

High (H): Irreversible injury
Medium (M): Reversible injury requiring a week to recover
Low (L): Negligable injury requiring First Aid

Risk Rating: Once the likelihood & severity have been determined, the risk is calculated as follows:

	Likelihood		
Severity	**H**	**M**	**L**
H	HIgh	High	Medium
M	High	High	Medium
L	Medium	Medium	Low

Risk Assessment

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Description of activity

The Bridge building team challenge is a supervised group activity against the clock.

Groups of children must be accompanied by own teacher / parent / helper and a member of Science Centre staff.

The challenge commences with a safety talk warning about the potential hazards especially if the activity is not carried out sensibly e.g. carrying the pieces correctly and the risk of banged heads and trapped fingers. These safety points are reinforced throughout the activity. Any actions deemed unsafe by the supervisor will lead to the challenge being stopped. The activity will only recommence once the supervisor is happy that the activity can and will proceed safely.

Students construct a truss bridge, run over the structure twice then dismantle it in reverse order for safety reasons. Students must put all the pieces away tidily and carefully once the bridge has been dismantled. The activity is timed and the fastest time wins. Penalties will be incurred if the activity is done in a manner deemed unsafe by the supervisor and participants can be disqualified.

Risk assessment is a simple process that must be applied to show that all identified risks have been eliminated or minimised to an acceptable level.

Any risk identified during a regular review of the activity for example, during its design development, any testing or prototyping, manufacture of parts, installation, operation, maintenance, should be recorded on the risk assessment form. All actions taken should be recorded to illustrate that this risk has been reduced to a minimum.