**Incan Grass Bridge Challenge**

The challenge…Create an Incan inspired grass suspension bridge with your team members. You are going to have a set time and set supplies to create an invention from Ancient History. You can only use the supplies provided by your teacher for this task!

Since the Inca’s settled in the Andes Mountains, their empire was spread apart. To combat the issues that come with these geographic problems, the Inca built a 10,000-mile network of trails. Near the major cities the roods were paved with stone, but these roads also had to cross mountainous river gorges. The Inca’s hand built grass suspension bridges to safely to get across these gorges.

**To successfully complete the task:**

* You can only use the newspaper given to you to create the bridges.
* Your bridges need to be able to be attached to 2 chairs that are 2 feet apart.
* Your bridges can only be attached with 2, 1 inch pieces of tape on each side.
* Your bridge needs to be able to hold the weight of as many books as possible without breaking.

**But First…**you must read the [article](http://www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/inca-rope-bridge-built-span-national-mall-washington-dc-180955609/?no-ist) and use this reading to answer the questions in complete SENTENCES! Make sure you include lots and lots of details from the reading in your answers. When you show me the article, you get your supplies.

Article Link: <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/inca-rope-bridge-built-span-national-mall-washington-dc-180955609/?no-ist>

1. What was a major purpose “major achievement” of these grass bridges for the Incan Empire?
2. How was this skill learned? What does this show?
3. About how many bridges were made during the Inca reign? How long and wide would these bridges get?
4. How did these bridges help to bring peace?
5. How did these bridges aid in the Spanish conquest?
6. How were these bridges made?
7. What ritual did the Inca’s complete before first crossing a newly made bridge? Why is this done?

**Article Questions**

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How you will be graded on this project?

20 points= article questions

10 points= personal reflection

65 points= bridge creation (look like the Inca bridge? Actually holds up?)

5 points= to the winning team with the most weight on their bridge