

Build My Future Ideas

- Make potato guns out of pex tubing and plumbing parts – shows how to work with hands and create things
Make hula hoops out of pex tubing
- Create an obstacle course. This event could have a variety of activities involved, such as: Putting on safety gear (ie gloves, masks, hard hat, etc), Hammering, Building something – could be with actual construction materials or spaghetti & marshmallows, Assemble something – ie bolt together two pieces of wood, but they have to figure out which bolt is the correct bolt (different lengths) and which nut is the correct one, Remove safety gear
 - If the obstacle course is outside, there are even more options: Lay tile in a specific pattern, Could involve landscaping – ie move a barrel of mulch, lay paving stone, etc, Frame a wall or remove a piece of lumber from a wall, Put on a harness and climb on a roof
- Make a coaster using small glass tiles. Vendor pre-cuts the backing, student picks out the tiles, creates a pattern, applies the mastic, places tiles and grouts. Vendor shrink wraps the coaster and gives it to the student
Teach students how to seam carpet
- Install a window – the next student would remove the window and then repeat
- Build a dog house
- Roof a dog house
- Partner with Habitat for Humanity and build a shed – would need to coordinate how to remove the shed and deliver to a job site
- Build a bridge – MSU has the plans to build a bridge using PVC
- Work with tile or linoleum pieces to create patterns
- Virtual welding
- Actual welding
- Work with a drone outside
- Build walls – one insulated and one not insulated and bring heat sensing testing equipment to allow students to see the difference
- Insulate a wall
- Build a wall section or make a square of wall sections and install drywall
- Install siding on a wall section
- Have a photo booth with construction supplies – ie safety equipment (vest, hard hat, etc), signage used in flagging and other things and let students take each other's pictures
- Bring a simulator and let students operate various pieces of equipment or vehicles
- Teach students how to lay bricks
- Make a metal tool carrying caddy
- Build corn hole boards or simple desks. In Des Moines, a group had cut out all of the pieces needed to build a simple desk and had the students build the desks. The students were allowed to sign their names and the desks were donated to a charitable organization to be given to students that did not have desks
- Create a landscaping obstacle course

- Set up an electrical pole that students can practice being a lineman on
- Build shallow boxes and have students work with cement – learn how to do flatwork
- Have a crane and operator there – teach students the different hand signals used to tell the crane operator what to do
- Use an excavator or mini excavator and have students try to place basketballs on traffic cones – or pick up basketballs from traffic cones
- Bring a mini crane and have students try to put something in a barrel
- Bring potted plants and work with students to create a landscape design
- Build a wall (4x8), place hooks on the wall and have tokens representing the different phases of home construction – have the students place them in the correct order
- Bring simpler blueprints and have students identify various items on the blue prints. How many windows? How do you figure out how many studs you need?
- Bring a metal brake and let students bend metal
- Virtual reality walk through a job site
- Allow students to work with 3-D architecture program
- Put on proper safety harness and go up in a scissor lift
- Use remote control construction equipment to move a pile of candy
- Bring parts and pieces to assemble cabinet doors
- Teach students how to create simple electric loops – if done correctly, a light bulb lights up or a doorbell rings
- Bring various tools, let students guess what they are used for, then show them how they are used
- Allow students to operate a remote control tamper
- Let students sit on a large piece of equipment and see what the dashboard looks like (vendor may or may not be comfortable letting student operate equipment)
- Use large legos or regular legos to build structures
- Teach students how to put on a safety harness and let them go up in a bucket truck
- Create mini wall sections (1/4 scale?) and have students build a house
- Allow students to paint wall sections
- Use trusses to support/build a climbing wall