

Creative Can Sculptures Help Feed the Hungry



Did you ever make a tower out of cans? People who participate in a competition called Canstruction get a chance to be creative with cans of food. At the same time, they are helping to fight hunger.

During Canstruction competitions, teams led by architects, engineers, and builders design and build huge sculptures out of cans of food. More than 50 competitions are being held this year in the U.S. and Canada.

Sculptures have included a shark, a castle, an octopus, a seashell, and even a tornado. Each sculpture uses between 1,000 and 13,000 cans. You can see many of the sculptures in a slideshow at <http://canstruction.org/indexi.html>.

NEWS WORD BOX

architect	builder
engineer	designer
competition	construction

When the Canstruction competition is over, all of the cans of food are donated to food banks, homeless shelters, day care and senior centers, and soup kitchens to help feed hungry people.

Sculptures can win in different categories, including Best Use of Labels and Best Meal (a sculpture made from canned products that can be used to make an actual meal). This year, a sculpture of a hot dog in a bun with bottles of catsup and mustard made of cans won the top prize of the competition.

MORE FACTS ABOUT CANSTRUCTION

- The only things allowed to help hold the sculptures together are 1/4-inch-thick flat material to level the structure, cardboard, tape, rubber bands, and wire.
- Canstruction is run by the Society for Design Administration with the help of people in the architectural, construction, and design businesses.

THINK ABOUT THE NEWS

If you and your classmates could build a Canstruction structure, what would you build?