

# Community Spotlight

Each <u>Community Spotlight</u> features an outstanding group, partner, resource, or member of our community.

Beanbag Toss (Grades 6-8) (Version 1.0) By Jody Britten, Marka Carson, Jacob Cordeiro, Misael Jiminez, and Erika Villegas-Jiminez



### **Module Description:**

The classroom lesson presents students with the task of developing a fair—yet challenging—beanbag toss game. The game must be fair enough to attract players, and challenging enough to keep them invested. Students use the resources at their disposal to design a carnival game, and use data to set an appropriate level of challenge by changing player accuracy. Students may brainstorm one of many different modeling problems:

- How big should the target be?
- How far should a player stand from the target?
- What kind of obstacles should be in the way?

The activity involves possible mathematical tools drawn from data collection, probabilities, and distribution

In addition to a student worksheet, this resource contains information for instructors, including a list of learning goals with relevant Common Core Standards and a detailed lesson plan.

This activity was developed with NSF funding (Grant STEM-C-1441024).

## **Teaching Setting:**

This activity was designed for grades 6-8.

## **QUBES** Citation:

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### **Related Materials and Opportunities:**

This resource was created by members of the <u>Math Modeling Hub (MMHub</u>). MMHub is an online community and resource repository for the teaching and learning of mathematical modeling at all grade levels. It is being collaboratively organized by COMAP, NCTM, and SIAM - three substantial mathematics professional societies with interests in modeling education. MMHub recently launched its beta testing phase and is actively seeking users and feedback around their modeling teaching materials. <u>Browse other MMHub resources</u>, which are designed for pre-K through graduate students, or <u>visit their Getting</u> <u>Started page</u> to learn how you can get involved.

The authors of this resource also designed beanbag toss activities for students in <u>grades 3-5</u> and <u>K-2</u>. It's never too early to introduce mathematical modeling to your students!

If you are interested in incorporating mathematical modeling into your classroom, you may find it useful to reference the <u>Guidelines for Assessment</u> <u>and Instruction in Mathematical Modeling Education (GAIMME) Report</u>, which describes what mathematical modeling is and provides guidance on how to teach it to students at different grade levels. <u>Learn more about the GAIMME Report and download it here.</u>

Are you interested in advancing the teaching and learning of mathematical modeling in K-16 classrooms? Attend the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute's *Critical Issues in Mathematics Education 2019: Mathematical Modeling in K-16: Community and Cultural Context* conference in Berkeley, CA on March 6-8, 2019. Registration deadline: March 8, 2019. Register by December 6, 2018 to apply for funding. <u>Click here to learn more and register</u>.

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