Build a Basket

**Materials:** Variety of materials you have on hand: paper, newspaper, coffee filters, pipe cleaners, yarn, straws, etc., tape, stapler, scissors, plastic egg or other cargo

**Background Information:** A basket is a container used to hold or carry things, often made from interwoven strips of cane, wire, or fabric. Baskets have been used for thousands of years by people all over the world. Throughout history, baskets were made from materials people could easily find in nature around them or from textiles they created using natural materials. Different cultures create baskets for different purposes. Most baskets have a base and a handle.

**STEM Career Connection:** A basket weaver interlaces materials to form a base and handle that are put together to make a basket. Baskets are useful for holding and carrying all different types of materials and objects.

**Literature Connections:** *Little Red Riding Hood* by various authors, *Circle Unbroken* by Margot Theis Raven

**Challenge:**
1. Gather a variety of building materials.
2. How can you use the materials you have to create a basket with a handle that can hold at least one plastic egg?
3. Think about the materials you have to use. Make a plan for what materials you will use and how you will use them.
4. Create your basket.
5. Test your basket by picking it up by the handle. Does the handle stay attached to the base? If not, make some modifications to your basket to improve it.
6. Test your basket by placing a plastic egg in it. Does the basket hold the egg? If not, make some modifications to your basket to improve it.
7. What other modifications can you make to your basket to make it stronger or better in some way? Give it a try!