

# Case Study: Community Engagement

## Tulloch Primary School – STEM Workshop



Perth Transport Futures Project – Phase One  
A9/A85 Perth Transport Futures Project

18<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Greg Cheyne, Senior Structures Site Engineer with the Balfour Beatty Team at the Perth Transport Futures Project, went out to deliver a STEM presentation and workshop with local pupils at Tulloch Primary School as part of our ongoing programme of curriculum support.

*“I think, because they can see how the job is progressing, they found it fascinating that we have the power to do that.”* **Greg Cheyne, Balfour Beatty**

### The Challenge

Engaging with young people from Nursery through to College and University is paramount in getting Balfour Beatty's safety message out and inspiring the next generation of talented men and women who will transform the construction industry of the future. Greg Cheyne met up with some P4 pupils at Tulloch Primary School to do just that.

### The Measures

Greg went out to meet with 26 P4 pupils at Tulloch Primary school to discuss construction and how engineers design and build structures and roads. In order to experiment themselves, Greg set them the task of building the tallest structure they could with only spaghetti and marshmallows. This allowed the pupils to learn which designs work better than others and about triangles and pyramids and why they provide more strength to a structure than other shapes.

### The Results

The pupils had a great time and were very successful coming up with some very creative designs. Hopefully the experience of working with Greg and learning about structures has encouraged some of the young people to think about a future in Civil Engineering. Greg said of his time at Tulloch, “It was great to just see that the children were genuinely interested in what was going on. They were all really enthusiastic which made my job a lot easier. I think they definitely learnt that there's a lot more to building a road or bridge than they thought. I think because they can see how the job is progressing they found it fascinating that we have the power to do that.”

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