

Problem-Solving: Step 3

ANSWERS

- **Which idea is selected?**

The table with 4 legs rolled quite loosely

- **What's the problem with each of the other ideas?**

Idea	Problem
Rolling up four sheets of newspaper tightly to make legs	<i>"I like the idea, but I'm worried about <u>the strength of the legs</u>. If we roll up the newspaper very tightly, the weight of the book won't be spread over a very big area. The table has to be at least 20 cm tall, so <u>I think the legs will bend</u>. Do you see what I mean?"</i>
Making four A-shaped legs	<i>"Yes, they are. The only issue I see is <u>the height</u>. Remember that the table has to be at least 20 cm tall. If we use one sheet of newspaper for each leg, <u>will it be tall enough?</u>"</i>
Turning the A-shaped legs upside down	As above
Making a box	<i>"Ah, you're right. <u>We'll run out of newspaper</u> if we try to make a box. We'd need 12 sheets."</i>
Making something like a box but with a triangle at the top and bottom	<i>"Hmm, I'm not sure about that. I think <u>triangles only help if they're used as part of the legs</u>." "That's true, I think. Also, if we make this one, <u>the vertical legs will need to be rolled up quite tightly</u>. Does that mean <u>they might bend?</u>"</i>