

A House in the Woods

RIF EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR EDUCATORS

STEAM-THEMED: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ART, MATH

SCIENCE, MATH

WHAT HAPPENED TO BEAR?

Materials: 4 cups, water, salt, baking soda, vinegar, 4 gummy bears, ruler

Set up the experiment as follows:

Cup 1: 2 oz. of water; **Cup 2:** 2 oz. of water and 1 tspn. of salt; **Cup 3:** 2 oz. of water and 1 tspn. of baking soda; **Cup 4:** 2 oz. of white vinegar.

Measure the gummy bears and record data. Place one bear in each cup. After two days, remove the bears. Measure and record any changes in size or appearance. Research the difference between baking soda and vinegar. Why do students think the different liquids affected the bears differently? Which solution changed its bear the most? The least? Why?



TECHNOLOGY

TIMES-A-CHANGIN'

Using the pictures in the story, choose three familiar items that have changed a lot since they were invented. When was each item invented? How has each one changed over time? Why? How has new technology affected each item?

ENGINEERING

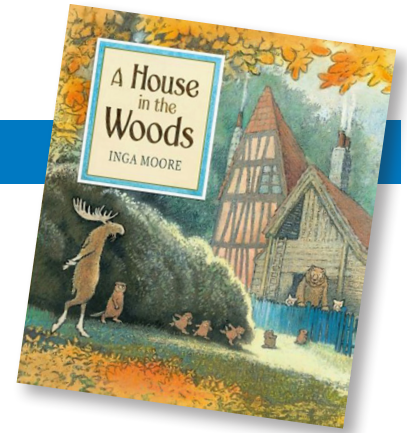
CONSTRUCTION ZONE

Materials: play dough, small craft sticks

Have students use play dough and craft sticks to build houses. They should sketch designs before building. The play dough should act as a mortar to help hold the craft sticks together. As they build, have students think about the order in which the parts



of the house need to be built. What special challenges (from weather, soil type, etc.) does a house in your area need to withstand?



ART, SCIENCE

HABITAT HOME

Materials: shoebox, construction paper, magazine pictures, scissors, glue

Pick a character from the book. What type of habitat does that animal live in? Inside of a shoebox, build a model of that habitat and a home or shelter where the animal might live.

ART

A WOODSY WELCOME

Materials: card stock, pencils, crayons, markers

There's no better way to show friends they're welcome in your home than a "Welcome" sign! What are some other ways to say welcome? How do you say welcome in other languages?

Let students choose their favorite welcome word and design a welcome sign for their own home.



MATH

PEANUT BUTTER MONEY!

The beavers were paid in peanut butter sandwiches. If there were 20 beavers, how many sandwiches would you estimate were on the bill? They made six plates of sandwiches. If each plate held 15 sandwiches, how many sandwiches did they make? Was this close to your estimate? How could the sandwiches be shared equally among the 20 beavers? How many sandwiches would each beaver get?