The Most Magnificent Thing

A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

Themes: Imagination, Engineering, Perseverance

Book Brief: This book follows a young girl and her best friend as she attempts to create the most magnificent thing. Join her as she finds out that creating something magnificent means making mistakes along the way.

Author and Illustrator: Ashley Spires

TIME TO READ!

Before reading, make inferences: Using the cover picture, what can you infer, or guess, about the little girl? What can you tell about her relationship with her dog? What do you think the setting of the story will be?

While reading, make connections: Can you think of a time you had an idea that didn't work? Have you ever become upset when things didn't go your way?

After reading, ask questions:

◆ What might have inspired the girl's idea to build something magnificent?

◆ Where do you think the girl got all the materials for her creation?

◆ How did the dog help her not give up?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

A MAGNIFICENT MUNCHIE

Ingredients: crackers, pretzel sticks, raisins, peanut butter (can substitute cream cheese or other thick spread)

Think about the shapes of each of the ingredients. What could you create with them? A spider? A flower? A skyscraper? Use the peanut butter to help hold your creation together. When finished with your design, admire it for a moment—then munch away!

TIME TO TINKER!

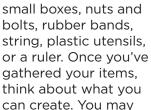Create your own tinker station with recycled items. Some suggestions might be: cardboard tubes, clothespins, tape, small boxes, nuts and bolts, rubber bands, string, plastic utensils, or a ruler. Once you've gathered your items, think about what you can create. You may want to draw out your design first or just start tinkering away. What magnificent thing did you create? Name your masterpiece!

CAN YOU DO IT?

Need some ideas to get you started on creating something? Visit **http://pbskids.org/dragonflytv/superdoit/index.html** and choose an activity. Ask your friends and family to help you. After you've done a few activities, try creating your own!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

Edie's Ensembles (2014)
Penguin and the Cupcake (2014)
Larf (2012)

RIF
Reading Is Fundamental