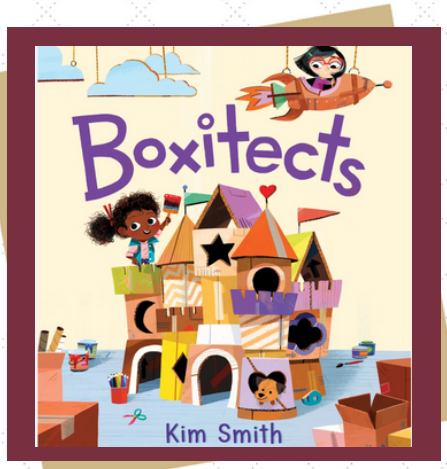


BEYOND THE BOOK GUIDE

Boxitects by Kim Smith

Book Summary

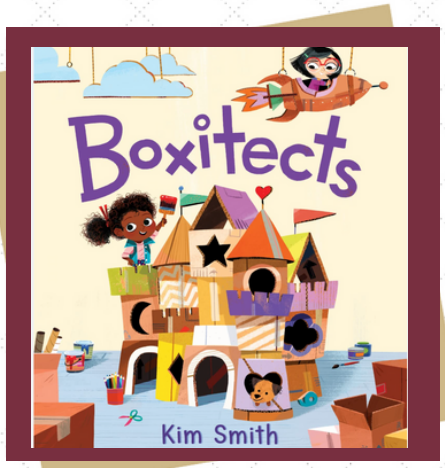
In this book, we get to see true creativity shine as children have the opportunity to build whatever they can think of! We follow Meg as she goes to Maker School where she learns the skill and importance of working together to solve problems. Follow along as the Boxitects use creativity to make amazing structures!

Before Reading the Story

- Ask your child if they know what an architect is. Once discussed, ask the child if they can guess what a "boxitect" is.
- Based on the cover, discuss what you think the book is about.
- Talk about a time you've built a structure out of boxes. If you haven't, imagine what you could build.

Target Vocabulary

- **marvelous:** something great or amazing
- **brilliant:** very smart or very good at something
- **proud:** you feel really good about something you or someone else did
- **creative:** using your imagination to think about or make something new
- **resistant:** to fight against something or someone
- **structure:** something you have built
- **sturdier:** make something stronger
- **insisted:** to not give up asking for something
- **combine:** to put together
- **truce:** to stop being angry or mad at someone
- **annual:** something that happens one time every year



BEYOND THE BOOK GUIDE

During the Story

- Read the book aloud with the pictures facing your child.
- Make predictions about the story based on the pictures.
- Provide definitions and connections for any of the target vocabulary words that may be unfamiliar.
- Have your child repeat the words that they do not know.
- Relate the details in the story to events and experiences in your everyday life.
- Ask questions throughout the story to help your child understand what's being read.

After Reading the Story

- Have your child re-read the book in their own words using the illustrations.
- Flip through the book and look at the different structures that were built. Ask your child which structures were their favorite.
- Brainstorm with your child different recyclable materials around the house that could be used to build structures. Encourage your child to try and build something using those items.
- Discuss why Meg and Simone didn't get along when they first met.

Example Questions to Ask

- "Meg was a boxitect. She loved to make things out of _____"
- What materials were the other builders using to make their structures at Maker School?
- How did Meg feel when she realized Simone was also a boxitect?
- What happened to Meg and Simone's creation when they didn't work together?
- If you could build a structure that looked like any of the ones in the book, which one would you try to build?
- Do you have to work together with your friends at school? What are some of the different projects that are better to work on with friends than by yourself?