

Boxitects

Written and Illustrated By: Kim Smith

Synopsis: Meg goes to Maker School to hone her talent for building with boxes, but when Simone, another boxitect, arrives they become so competitive they nearly fail in the annual Maker Match.

Suggested Reading Date: STEM Day, November 8th

Activity Descriptions:

- Have students brainstorm a list of things that can be created with cardboard.
- Have a discussion about the benefits of working as a TEAM. What attributes are required for a successful team? (Compromise, Sharing, Listening, etc.) Use attributes to create a What Does it Look Like and Sound Like Chart.
- Encourage students to take on the author's boxitect castle challenge at the end of the story.
- Share visuals of items created by students. Links to Sample Visuals below.
17 Ways to turn Cardboard Boxes into Epic Creations:
<https://redtri.com/the-best-cardboard-creations/slide/1>
10 Easy Cardboard Crafts for Kids:
<https://www.brightstarkids.com.au/blog/creating/10-easy-cardboard-crafts-for-kids/>
95 Cardboard Creations Ideas:
<https://www.pinterest.com/grandycamp/cardboard-creations/>

Related Websites:

- Author's Website (Kim Smith's Boxitect Activities)
<https://kimillustration.com/index.php/portfolio/boxitects/>
- How cardboard was used to solve a problem for students in a little village in India where basic material is limited.
<https://sites.google.com/pdsb.net/tinkeringintheforest/blue-spruce/boxitects>
- Author, Kim Smith's corrugated cardboard experiment. (Kids will be AMAZED!)
<https://youtu.be/rwsQrWMgifY>
- How cardboard boxes are made.
<https://www.funkidslive.com/learn/howsitmade/cardboard-boxes-made/>
- Kim Smith is also an illustrator. Drawing Tutorial: How to Draw Meg
<https://youtu.be/49Ui5cK1VZo>

Text to Text Connections:

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind by William Kamkwamba

What to do with a Box by Jane Yolen

Not a Box by Antoinette Portis

Bag in the Wind by Ted Kooser

Created By: Charisse Tsukamoto