

Building Stories

RIF EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR EDUCATORS



THINK-TAC-TOE ACTIVITY OPTIONS

- ◆ Individual students can choose an activity to complete.
- ◆ Student pairs or cooperative groups can work together on a choice of their own.
- ◆ Educator can assign an activity for an individual, pairs, or groups.

<p style="text-align: center;">PICTURE PERFECT</p> <p>Have students draw or take a picture of the building they live in. Have them find and label as many architectural features as possible. Have students also draw or take pictures of significant buildings in their community. Are there any animals or decorations? If not, students can draw in their own.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Engineering, Art, Social Studies</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BOOK IT</p> <p>Make a book of your own titled <i>Rural Animals and Suburban Animals</i>. Include at least 5 animals you could find in the suburbs and 5 animals you find in rural areas. To illustrate your book, use your own drawings, pictures from magazines or online, or your own photographs.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Science, Art, Writing</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MORAL OF THE STORY</p> <p>Have students select an animal found in their community and write a <i>fable</i> starring this animal. Remember that a fable should teach a lesson or moral. Students should illustrate their fables. Fables can be bound together into a class book. Students may work in groups and select fables to dramatize for the rest of the class.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Science, Art, Writing</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ANIMAL VERSE</p> <p>Select an animal found in the book. Research the animal. What are its characteristics? How does it move around? What does it eat? What other animals live near it? Write a cinquain poem about the animal using this information.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Science, Writing</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">DESIGN FEATURES</p> <p>Pick one of the buildings in the book. Research to learn more about it. What is its name? How old is it? Who built it? What is it made of? What makes it special? Visit maps.google.com or earth.google.com to see if you can explore the building online. Share your findings with the class creatively.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Technology, Engineering, Writing</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">IF YOU BUILD IT</p> <p>Search online for pictures of famous buildings in your city or state. How are they alike? Different? Research the materials, style, size, and shape of the buildings. Pick one of the buildings and create a model or sculpture of it using materials in the classroom. Be prepared to present your model or sculpture to the class.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Technology, Engineering, Art</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">FLY ON THE WALL</p> <p>Imagine you're one of the animals or figures in the book. What's it like to be stuck on a building all day? Is it lonely? Do you like your building? Does anyone notice you? Do you see interesting people or exciting events? Write a story about a day in the life of your architectural animal or figure.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Art, Writing</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FIRST (OR LAST) IN FLIGHT</p> <p>Some of the animals in the book have wings. Using paper and markers, make 3 of these animals. Cut out the animals and number them 1-3. Choose a starting point. Throw each paper animal forward and measure how far it flies. Try adding paper clips to the wings. Does the extra weight change the distance? Use a graph or a chart to show your findings.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Science, Art, Math</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ON THE ROAD</p> <p>Find a U.S. map with a scale. Using the scale, find the distance from your city to New York City. Write a letter to persuade your friends to visit New York with you. If you wanted to stop halfway there, where would you stop? How long will it take to get there? To convince your friends to go, write about some of the things you can see and do in New York.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Math, Writing</i></p>