



Working Out the World

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Friendship, Confidence, STEM

Book Brief: A story about a girl who creates a virtual creature through coding and discovers the power of friendship!

Author:
Storytime

Illustrator:
Marie-Pierre Oddoux

BEFORE READING

The Cover: Ask students to make a prediction about the story based on the cover and title.

The Pictures: Take a quick picture walk and ask students what they notice about the illustrations.

Prior Knowledge: Ask, "Have you ever wondered how something works, like the stars, the ocean, or even a machine? What did you do when you were curious?" (Optional: Think, Pair, Share)

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: "As we read, think about what Stephen is curious about, how his questions help him learn, and how his thinking sets him up for his future."



DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- Describe Stephen and his interests. What kinds of questions does he like to ask?
- How do other people respond to his curiosity?
- How does Stephen feel about school? Why?
- What did Stephen and his friends build? How? Why?

Think Aloud: "Stephen is not just learning facts, he is trying to understand how and why things work. His curiosity pushes him to keep thinking instead of giving up, and that helps him grow into someone who studies big scientific ideas."

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: "What was the boy curious about? How did his questions help him learn about the world and the universe?"

Extending Our Thinking: Create a class web of "big questions" students have about the world by writing it in the center of a chart and branching into categories like space, animals, nature, and machines. Have students add their own questions to each section (e.g., Why do stars shine? How do birds fly? How do machines move?). Then discuss how questions help us learn new things and lead to discovery.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Explore 100 other free eBooks on Skybrary! Visit www.Skybrary.org to learn more.
- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.