

Literature-based Engineering Example: Create a Communication Device for the Penguin

GRADES K-2

BOOK SUMMARY

Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers

A story about the meaning of loneliness and the importance of friendship. When a penguin arrives on a boy's doorstep, he decides it must be lost and he tries to return the penguin home to the South Pole.

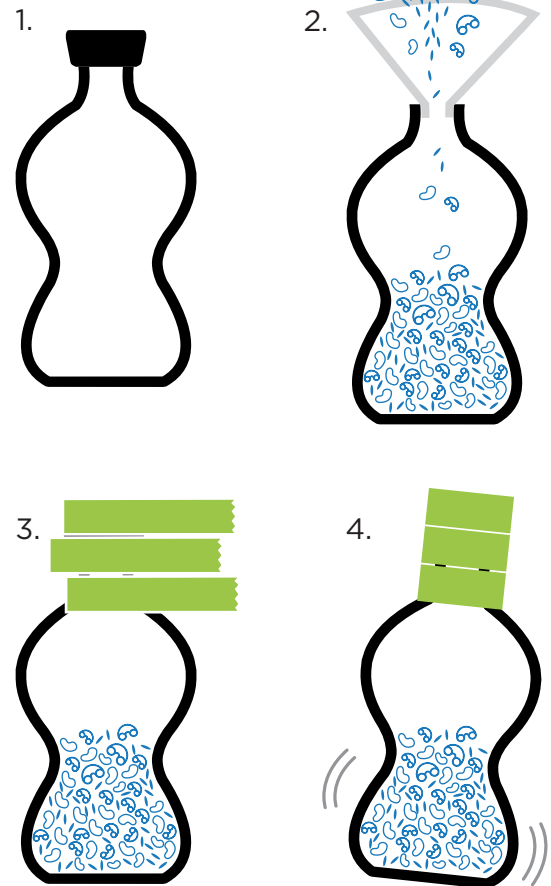


DIRECTIONS

Estimated time: 30-45 minutes

Materials: empty water bottle, craft paper rolls, rice/beans/elbow pasta, masking tape

1. Introduce the book, "Today we are going to read a story about the meaning of loneliness and the importance of friendship. When a penguin arrives on a boy's doorstep, he decides it must be lost and he tries to return the penguin home to the South Pole."
2. Read *Lost and Found* by Oliver Jeffers. Discuss the story. What was the problem in this story? How was it solved? Why did the boy think the penguin was lost? Why was the penguin sad? Have you ever felt like the penguin in this story?
3. Explain that the penguin could not tell the boy he was lonely and not lost because he did not have a way of communicating. Today we are going to build a communication device that uses sound to answer Yes/No questions.
4. Fill half of the water bottle with rice/beans/elbow pasta. Use masking tape to attach the craft paper roll as a handle.
5. Try it out! Have a friend pretend to be the penguin and ask them some Yes or No questions. One shake means "Yes" and two shakes means "No." How do you think this communication device would have been helpful in the story?



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