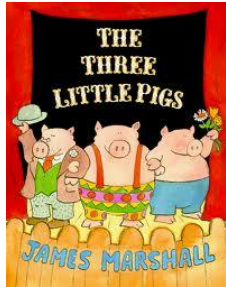


House-Building Read-Aloud Outline

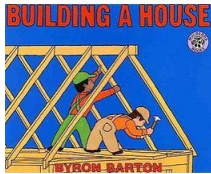
Who knew the Three Little Pigs were engineers? They solved problems with design. Each needs a house and each chooses a different material and design to make a house, with differing results. Start out a Read-Aloud about houses with a version of the Three Little Pigs, then explore different kinds of houses and materials, and finally encourage the kids to build houses using different materials.



The Three Little Pigs by James Marshall

Ages 4 and up

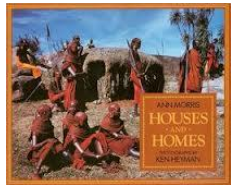
Any version of the *Three Pigs* story will do to introduce the idea that using different building materials will result in types of stability.



Building a House by Byron Barton

Ages 4 and up

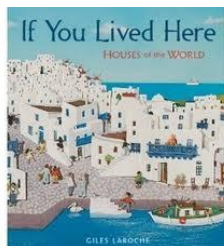
This step-by-step book is clear for even the very young children. It shows the different workers and the different machines used in building a house.



Houses and Homes by Ann Morris, photographs by Ken Heyman

Ages 4 to 8

Simple text and lots of photos explore houses from all over the world.



If You Lived Here: Houses of the World by Giles Laroche

Ages 8 to 12

Amazing cut-paper illustrations depict sixteen different types of houses from all over. Descriptions for all include the type of house, materials, location and the date that the type of house was first built.

Other books about houses and building

A House is a House for Me by Mary Ann Hoberman, illustrated by Betty Fraser (Ages 4 to 8)
Rhyming text and detailed illustrations explore houses for ants, whales, duchesses and Eskimos.

Building Our House by Jonathan Bean (Ages 4 and up)
Cute drawings of the building process and old photographs of the actual building of the family house in the country.

Henry Builds a Cabin by D. B. Johnson (Ages 5 to 10)
Simple text and delightful illustrations allow the reader to follow along as Henry David Thoreau builds his house at Walden Pond. Detailed notes at the end explain about Thoreau and his work at Walden Pond.

Steven Caney's Ultimate Building Book by Steven Caney (Ages 10 and up)
Easy-to-follow instructions for the older child includes a huge number of projects.

Castle by David Macaulay (Ages 10 and up)
Castle is illustrated with detailed black and white drawings showing the steps to the each structure. A read-aloud based completely on David Macaulay books would interest a great many older children.

Activity

BUILD! TRC has a set of Lincoln Logs and a set of Legos for building. Throw in some index cards and encourage the kids to build structures out of the different materials and explore their stability. You may have to show the kids how to build a house out of the cards (use a carpet square for the base for a card house.) Ask your kids to **predict** which houses will be the most stable, to **observe** which houses are the most stable and then **evaluate** the pluses and minuses of each of the building materials.

If your site has a set of blocks, you can use them too. Allow at least 20 minutes for the children to build.

Conversations

Where do you live? What kind of house would you like to live in?

How do people and animals use what is available to make a house?

How would you build a house underwater? What about on the moon? What about in the side of a hill?

What kind of houses to bears and beavers make? What about other kinds of animals?