

Names:

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Book Citation:

Scott, Drew, Scott, Johnathan. *Builder Brothers: Big Plans*. SB Publications LLC, 2018.

Grade Level:

Our lesson would be appropriate for children in second grade. This book might work best for a read aloud, since some of the words would be difficult for a second grader to sound out. The message of the book would be relatable and engaging for second graders.

Brief Summary:

This book is written by the “Property Brothers” of HGTV. The story follows Drew and Johnathon on a building adventure. They get upset when the adults in their lives laugh at the big plans that they have, so they set out to build the double-decker doghouse of their dreams. Drew and Johnathon make the blueprints for this incredible doghouse and work together to build it. Unfortunately, some planning mistakes result in a house much smaller than they intended. The brothers use their creativity to decide that they can make the house into something else.

Rationale for Text Selection:

This text shows the importance of perseverance and getting creative when things do not go the way that you thought they would. The book also talks about designing plans and the importance of checking your measurements. The students can use engineering and the scientific method to create things based off of Johnathon and Drew’s situations.

NCSS Standard:

Science, Technology, and Society

Culture Concepts Addressed:

Students will understand:

- > Science involves the study of the natural world, and technology refers to the tools we use to accomplish tasks

Pre-reading Question or Focus Statement:

What technology do Drew and Johnathon use to create their doghouse?
Is this normally what you think of when you hear the word "technology"?
How could they have used what we first think of when we hear "technology"?

Discussion Questions: (Higher order, text to self/world, logically sequenced, open-ended, clear/understandable)

1. Why were the twins frustrated at the beginning? Have you ever felt this way?
2. How did Drew and Johnathon decide what to build?
3. What technology do the boys use to create their design plan?
4. Is making a blueprint "scientific"? Why or why not? (hint: it is!)
5. What technology do the boys use to build their project?
6. What problem do Drew and Johnathon run into when they finish building their doghouse? How could they have avoided this problem?
7. How do they solve this problem? How would you have solved it?

Extension Activity:

Students will create blueprints for a house (human house, doghouse, bird house, whatever they want!). We will use the technology that the characters in the book did (a template, crayons, pencils, rulers) and more modern technology (the website http://www.abcy.com/build_a_house.htm) to design our houses. We will print our houses and write a short summary (2-3 sentences) to

describe them. Finally, we will hang them up around the room and go on a gallery walk to look at everyone's houses.

