

Quick STEAM Reads #2



Mid-Valley
STEM-CTE HUB



www.midvalleystem.org
midvalleystemctehub@linnbenton.edu
Linn-Benton Community College
Albany Campus - CC-212



STEAM Storytime Collection #2

The Maker & Science Stories Book Collection celebrates creativity, problem-solving, environmental stewardship, and personal resilience through engaging, story-driven adventures. Students will meet inventors, makers, dreamers, and scientists who overcome challenges, collaborate with others, and make a difference in their communities.

Through themes of renewable energy, environmental care, teamwork, cultural connection, and self-confidence, this collection encourages both scientific exploration and social-emotional growth.

The books help students see themselves as capable creators and changemakers while learning about real-world applications like sustainable power and bee conservation. Perfect for classrooms, after-school programs, and makerspaces, this kit fosters curiosity, empathy, and innovation.

Grade Level

1st - 5th

Reading Level

Beginner



Contents of Kit

- **Boxitects by Kim Smith** - Meg is a brilliant and creative boxitect. She loves impressing her teacher and classmates with what she makes out of boxes. But there's a new kid at Maker School: Simone. Simone is good at everything, and worst of all, she's a boxitect too. When the annual Maker Match is held, Meg and Simone are paired as a team but can't seem to stop arguing. When their extraordinary project turns into a huge disaster, they must find a way to join creative forces, lift each other up, and work together.
- **With Lots of Love by Jenny Torres Sanchez & Andre Ceolin** - Rocio has grown up in Central America, but now she and her family are moving to the United States. Rocio does her best to adjust to a new way of living, but there are many things she misses from her old life—Abuela's cooking, Abuela's pinata creations, Abuela's warm hugs, and of course, Abuela herself most of all. But Abuela finds a way to send Rocio something special just in time for her birthday—a gift wrapped with lots of love—and that fills Rocio to the brim.
- **Planet Power by Stacy Clark & Annalisa Beghelli** - From the power of the sun to the force of the wind, energy is all around us! Discover six renewable energy sources that help power our world in a clean and sustainable way. With simple verse and vibrant illustrations, this engaging book makes big ideas easy to understand. Which energy sources will shape the future?
- **Nigel and the Moon by Antwan Eady & Gracey Zhang** - When Nigel looks up at the moon, his future is bright. He imagines himself as...an astronaut, a dancer, a superhero, too! Among the stars, he twirls. With pride, his chest swells. And his eyes, they glow. Nigel is the most brilliant body in the sky. But it's Career Week at school, and Nigel can't find the courage to share his dreams. It's easy to whisper them to the moon, but not to his classmates—especially when he already feels out of place.
- **The Doctor with an eye for eyesight by Julia Finley Mosca & Daniel Rieley** - As a girl coming of age during the Civil Rights Movement, Patricia Bath made it her mission to become a doctor. When obstacles like racism, poverty, and sexism threatened this goal, she persevered—brightening the world with a game-changing treatment for blindness!
- **Follow That Bee by Scot Ritchie** - Pedro, Nick, Yulee, Sally and Martin are buzzing with excitement today! The five friends are visiting Martin's neighbor, Mr. Cardinal. He keeps beehives in his backyard, and he's offered to show them how honeybees live. As the kids help Mr. Cardinal with his work, he explains how bees feed and pollinate, what happens inside their colony, how they build their hives and even why they like to dance! He also tells the friends why some bee populations are in trouble and what people can do to help. And the perfect sweet ending to the day? Honey, of course! These children are sure to remember: it's best to "bee a friend" to the bees of the world!



Learning Extensions

STEAM Connections: Engineering - Math - Science

Learning Objectives:

- Students will explore key STEM concepts such as renewable energy, ecology, and invention through relatable, story-based examples.
- Students will develop creative problem-solving and collaboration skills by learning from characters who build, experiment, and work together.
- Students will identify examples of perseverance, resilience, and personal growth in the face of social and cultural challenges.
- Students will engage with environmental topics like pollination, sustainability, and the importance of supporting local ecosystems.

Career Connections:

- **Engineer/Inventor** – Through projects and maker-centered stories like Boxitects and Planet Power.
- **Environmental Scientist/Ecologist** – Introduced through Follow That Bee and renewable energy themes in Planet Power.
- **Medical Professional/Doctor** – Highlighted in The Doctor with an Eye for Eyesight and stories of overcoming obstacles to pursue healthcare careers.
- **Cultural Artist/Community Leader** – Inspired by With Lots of Love, which highlights cultural heritage, family traditions, and adaptation to new environments.

Essential Employability Skills:

- Collaboration and Teamwork
- Creativity and Innovation
- Resilience and Adaptability
- Communication
- Environmental Responsibility



Resources and Accessibility

Safety Guidelines

- **Avoid Food and Drinks Near Books** - Encourage clean, dry reading areas to prevent spills, stains, or water damage.
- **Handle Books Gently** - Model how to turn pages carefully, avoid bending spines, and store books upright or flat.
- **Use Clean Hands** - Have students wash or sanitize hands before handling shared books to keep materials in good condition.
- **Designate a Safe Storage Spot** - Store books in a sturdy, dry, and clearly labeled bin or tote to protect them from wear and tear between uses.

Accessibility

- **Use Book Stands or Holders** - Provide angled book holders or clipboards to support independent reading for students with mobility or motor challenges.
- **Pair Audio with Print** - Use audiobooks or teacher-read recordings when available to support students with reading disabilities or visual impairments.
- **Incorporate Read-Alouds and Peer Reading** - Offer opportunities for shared or buddy reading to help students who benefit from auditory learning or support with decoding.
- **Offer Visual Aids and Discussion Prompts** - Supplement books with images, models, or key vocabulary cards to reinforce understanding and engagement.

Library Catalog



Library Resources



Feedback

QR to feedback survey

