

STEAM Storytime Collection #2



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The Community, Teamwork, and Big Dreams Book Collection inspires young readers to explore how they fit into the world around them. Through stories about building neighborhoods, working together, and nurturing friendships, students will learn how cooperation and compassion can make a big difference in their communities. The collection also encourages creativity, individuality, and the importance of dreaming big, even when life feels challenging.

Each book sparks curiosity about the world, whether it's through construction, acts of kindness, or contributing to local causes. This kit is a perfect way to promote social-emotional learning, community engagement, and imaginative thinking in early elementary classrooms.

Grade Level

PreK - 2nd

Reading Level

Beginner



Contents of Kit

- **Look Where We Live! by Scot Ritchie** - Spend the day traveling around their neighborhood and participating in activities designed to raise money for their local library. Along the way, they learn about the people and places that make up their community and what it means to be a part of one. A map opens the story, with each of the places the children will be visiting labeled, including the gas station, retirement home, school, police station, soccer field, community garden, and, of course, the library! Then, each of the following spreads features a different location, detailed in a bright, busy illustration. Illustration captions expand the locations' connections to the concept of community.
- **Construction Site Mission: Demolition by Sherri Duskey Rinker & AG Ford** - The construction team we all know and love has an exciting job to do—smashing, crushing, sorting, and hauling. Demolition is tough work, but these powerful vehicles are up to the task—and once the job is done, there will be a freshly cleared and tidy construction site ready for building something new. Ultimately, this picture book is about working together, breaking things down, and cleaning it all up at the end of the day.
- **Happy Dreamer by Peter H. Reynolds** - Discover a universally poignant celebration of the colorful spectrum of what it means to dream and the many ways to find happiness! While the world tells us to sit still, to follow the rules, and to color inside the lines, Happy Dreamer celebrates all those moments in between when the mind and spirit soar and we are free to become our own true dreamer maximus! This empowering picture book reminds children of how much their dreams matter, and while life will have ups and downs, it enlists readers to stay true to who they are, to tap into their most creative inner selves, and to never ever forget to dream big!
- **Stick and Stone by Beth Ferry & Tom Lichtenheld** - When Stick rescues Stone from a prickly situation with Pinecone, a friendship is born. But when Stick gets stuck, can Stone return the favor? With simple rhyming text, subtle messages of kindness and compassion, and Tom Lichtenheld's signature charm, this delightful story about making and helping friends will enchant readers young and old because it's never too early—or too late—to stick up for your friends.



Learning Extensions

STEAM Connections: Engineering - Math - Science

Learning Objectives:

- Students will identify the roles and contributions of people in their communities.
- Students will develop social-emotional skills including friendship, empathy, and cooperation.
- Students will explore the concepts of teamwork and shared responsibility in problem-solving.
- Students will practice self-expression and dream big while recognizing the value of perseverance.

Career Connections:

- **Construction Worker/Builder** – Explored in Construction Site Mission: Demolition, focusing on teamwork and the process of building and rebuilding.
- **Community Organizer/Volunteer** – Highlighted in Look Where We Live!, which teaches students about community roles and fundraising for shared spaces.
- **Artist/Creative Professional** – Emphasized in Happy Dreamer, where creative expression and dreaming big are celebrated as important life skills.
- **Public Service Worker (e.g. Librarian, Police Officer, Teacher)** – Introduced in Look Where We Live! through exploration of key community members.

Essential Employability Skills:

- Collaboration and Teamwork
- Communication
- Creativity and Self-Expression
- Empathy and Kindness
- Community Engagement



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

