

NGSS Standard: K-PS3-2



Adventure Description:

In this adventure, you will think like an architect and create a shaded place for kids or pets to play.



Activity

Step 1: Background Information on Architects (5 minutes)

- Show [Video: Keeping It Cool](#).
- Explain to students that an architect designs buildings, like houses and schools. They can also design structures, like playgrounds and bridges. Show [Handout: Examples of Structures](#).
- Next, explain to students that architects design structures that block the sun. Because the sun is very hot, architects design shaded structures so people can be outside, but not be in the sun. Show [Handout: Shaded Playgrounds](#). Ask students if they have ever played on a playground that has a shaded structure over it!

Step 2: Creating a Shaded Place to Play (10 minutes)

- Explain to students that they will be architects and design a shaded area for kids or animals to play under.
- Show [Handout: Creating a Shaded Place to Play](#). As a class, discuss the steps.
- Teacher note: Students can work individually or in pairs.
- Have students complete step 1, choosing which location to build a shaded structure. They can choose a pool, a park for kids, or a park for animals.
- Then, have students complete step 2, drawing a picture of what their shaded structure will look like.
- If students need help, discuss how a giant umbrella or a roof are examples of shaded structures. If you stand under a giant umbrella or a roof, you won't feel the sun as much. The umbrella or roof blocks the sun! Then, ask students what type of structure they could build to block the sun for a person or for an animal who is at a park or pool.

Please contact Allison Bischoff, Director of Customer Service, at allison@rozzylearningcompany.com or 314-272-2560 with questions.

Architect: Keeping It Cool

Step 3: Building (15 minutes)

- Explain to students that they will now build their shaded structure.
- Provide students with art supplies and building materials to create their shaded structure. Examples of materials are pipe cleaners, popsicle sticks, egg cartons, paper towel rolls, and tape. Any supplies will work!
- Allow students to build for 10-15 minutes.
- When students are finished building, have a few students explain to the class whether an animal or person will use their shaded structure and how it will block the sun.
- Extra time? Have students use play-doh or clay to build a person or animal. Then, have students use their person or animal as part of “free play” to act out how the animal or person can go under the shaded structure to not get as hot from the sun.

Materials List

Provided online:

- Video: Keeping It Cool
- Handout: Examples of Structures
- Handout: Shaded Playgrounds
- Handout: Creating a Shaded Place to Play

Not provided (each pair of students needs):

- Art and building materials (pipe cleaners, popsicle sticks, egg cartons, paper towel rolls, and tape)

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