Mr. Pei's Perfect Shapes – The Story of Architect I.M. Pei Research and Reconstruction

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Resource developed by Neely Ewy and Noah Ren for CU Boulder's Children's Book Festival 2024, Open Education Resource, Creative Commons. Available at colorado.edu/event/bookfest



Grade and Colorado Academic Standard

Grade Level - 4th

Content Area - Reading, writing, and communicating

Colorado Academic Standards information:

- Standards category Research and Inquiry Design
- Grade level expectation 4th Use a variety of resources to build and communicate knowledge related to open–ended research questions.
- Evidence outcome a. Conduct short research projects that build knowledge through investigation of different aspects of a topic. (CCSS: W.4.7)
- Present a brief report of the research findings to an audience.

Colorado Academic Standard information retrieved from <u>https://www.cde.state.co.us/apps/standards</u> View the full standards at https://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/standards

Activity Overview

Description -

- This activity is for individual students or groups of 2-3.
- Assign students a building designed by Mr. Pei.
- Have them research and draw a building inspired by it.
- Present their research and illustration.

Materials

- Mr. Pei's Perfect Shapes picture book
- Access to the internet
 - Students must be able to have resources to research their building.
- Poster boards or other presentation materials
- Art materials (for drawing their building)
 - Pencils
 - Colored pencils
 - Markers
 - Glue
- Lined paper

Directions

After reading the book to students OR after they have read it, introduce the project to them; (Their Name)'s Perfect Shapes

- Assign students a building Mr. Pei built.
 - List of Buildings Mesa Laboratory (NCAR) in Boulder CO, Luce Memorial Chapel in Taichung Taiwan.
 List of more here <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_I_M_Pei_projects</u>
- Have students research their building online:
 - What year did Mr. Pei design the building?
 - What inspired Mr. Pei's design?
 - Where is this building located?
 - Why was the building built?
 - At least 2-3 fun facts about the building
- Have the students redesign a building of their own that they would build in place of or inspired by Mr. Pei's masterpiece.
 - For example: If the Louvre's entrance did not exist, I would create a reflective dome for the entrance.
- The students will draw their version of their own building and create a poster (or other presentation) including this drawing and a write up of the background/fun facts about the original.

Additional Suggestions

- If students get stuck or confused, suggest looking at modern buildings and designs, or have them look at intriguing shapes.
- Students can look at I.M. Pei's other buildings to get more inspiration.
- Students could compare his buildings with others to see how they are different.

We also hope you can join us on Saturday, November 9 at the Boulder Public Library to meet Julie Leung and hear more about *Mr. Pei's Perfect Shapes* in-person...along with other authors and illustrators! For more information, visit <u>https://www.colorado.edu/event/bookfest</u>









Join us on Saturday, November 9, 2024 | 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Source Public Library (Main Branch) - 1101 Arapahoe Ave. Free parking available

This free event includes author talks, a panel for educators, book sales and signi children's activities and more. Come for part of the event, or stay for the day!

Free educational resources available on our website. Continuing Education Unit (CEUs) available for teachers and librarians.

Support provided by the CU Boulder Office for Public and Community Engaged Scholarship



School of Education





Learn more and register at colorado.edu/event/bookfest



