

Les nouvelles de l'après-midi

Mars 2015





This month we will get creative as we explore architecture and design! What materials are good to build a house? Which ones are not? We will practice each stage of the construction process by drawing plans for a city, building towers and experimenting with different materials. The children will use their imagination and become architects, designers, and engineers! They will observe the environment and examine maps and real blue prints! We will read books on architecture that will help the children research and understand how to start designing and building cities and houses.

Books

Iggy Peck Architect by Andrea Beaty
Alphabet City by Stephen T. Johnson
It's My City by April Pulley Sayre
How a House is Built by Gail Gibbons
Dream Something Big by Dianna Hutts Ashton
Voyage au cœur de la ville de Eric Schollet Monique Bruant
La maison, Éditions Gallimard Jeunesse
C'est moi le roi de Nathalie Dieterlé



Practical Life Skills

As we design our cities and buildings, we will work on our cutting and coloring skills. We will also practice our construction skills by using a plastic hammer to hit nails into a soft board. We will learn how to stay safe around construction equipment.

△ In order to cool off after so much hard work, we will practice squeezing lemons to make homemade lemonade to go with our snack!

Art Activities



The children will use different materials to imagine and design a variety of cities.

- △ We will collaborate to create a large city map complete with roads, buildings, and parks. We will discuss and add to our map any other important features of a city.
- △ We will design a cityscape using various geometric shapes.
- △ We will use cardboard to create a building.

Science A



We will use various types of scientific inquiry to explore all of the elements of the construction process.

- △ In the design phase, we will examine different types of buildings and architectural styles. We will also do an observational activity to search for letters in pictures of different cities' architecture.
- △ In the engineering phase, we will learn about trial and error: What materials are best for construction? Do we put the heaviest and longest materials at the top or at the bottom?
- In the construction phase, we will use various materials to build towers. We will practice shape recognition as we try to build structures based on pictures.



French -



This month we will learn words to describe our construction activities.

le toit (roof)la poutre (beam)la ville (village)la porte (door)la brique (brick)la rue (street)la fenêtre (window)le sol (floor)le pont (bridge)les volets (shutters)le bois (wood)le château (castle)

Songs



"Make Any Shape and Freeze," "Pirouette, cacahuète," "Ah! Mon beau château," and "L'empereur, sa femme et le p'tit prince."