STEM with Moose and Friends

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based upon the picture book
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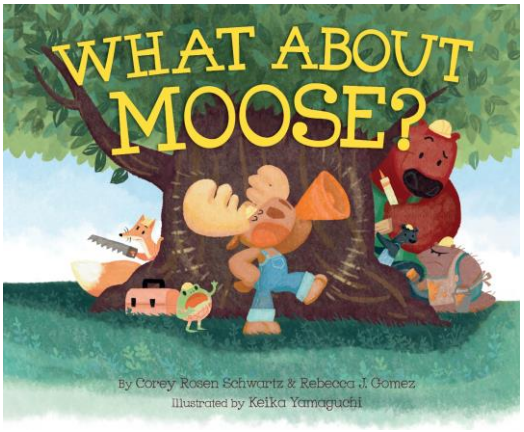

Bridge-Building Challenge: Plotting and Planning with the Scientific Method

The Scientific Method is an eight step series that engineers, scientists and inventors use to problem solve.

Step 1: Ask a Question

Step 2: Do Research

Step 3: Guess an Answer (also called a Hypothesis)

Step 4: Test Your Guess/Hypothesis

Step 5: Did it Work? Could it Be Better? Try Again

Step 6: Draw a Conclusion

Step 7: Write a Written Report of Your Results

Step 8: Retest

This bridge-building challenge allows students to test out the Scientific Method as they problem solve a way to build a bridge that really works! Of course, a little imagination is going to go a long way here, too!

- Set up two tables or desks in the classroom that have a fairly large gap in between them (approximately 3-4 feet is ideal.)
- Explain to students that they will be working in together to build a bridge to connect the two pieces of furniture.
- Provide several craft items (rulers, paper, cardboard tubing, empty boxes, tape, glue, etc.) Check the recycling bin for other ideas of materials.

The bridge must:

- Connect the two pieces of furniture.
- Be a construction using at least four different items.
- Be strong enough to hold four Matchbox cars as they cross from one side to the other.

Did it work? Retest? If it didn't work, head back to the drawing board like a real builder.