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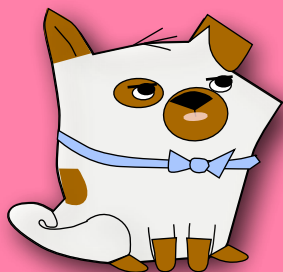
Great creations often result from many attempts and lessons learned along the way. This story follows a young girl and her trials as she makes the most magnificent thing.

**Ages:** 3 to 7 years**Interest Level:**

preschool to 2nd grade

**ATOS Reading Level:**

2.9

**Lexile:** AD 380L**ISBN:** 9781554537044**Copyright:** 2014**Genre:** Fiction**Classification:** Picture Story

# The Most Magnificent Thing

**What happens when making the most magnificent thing ends up being more difficult than you thought?**

**Topics:** engineering, construction, perseverance, growth mindset

**Math Connections:** Use *The Most Magnificent Thing* to help your child understand that their ability to create, problem solve, and understand new information is supported by their effort, attitude, and approach toward learning. They may not know something yet, but they will if they keep trying! Ask your child what they can do now that they couldn't do when they were younger. Ask how they learned these new things.

It is important for young children to understand that mathematicians often spend a great deal of time working on solutions to problems. Mathematicians don't expect to come up with answers quickly. They expect to try many different approaches, come up with new ways of looking at mathematical situations, explore lots of options, make mistakes, learn from their mistakes, and keep trying until they come up with a solution that works. Everybody has the ability to be a mathematician with persistence, effort, and a willingness to try new ideas.

**Extension Questions:**

1. What did the girl do that made you think she would succeed in building the most magnificent thing?
2. When things went wrong, what did the girl do?
3. Can you think of a time when something you were doing didn't work out the way you wanted it to? What did you do?
4. How do you think mistakes can be helpful?

<b>Vocabulary for Building Math Concepts</b>	big, heavier, long, measures, pair, ratio, round, shapes, sort, small, square
<b>Vocabulary for Extending Math Concepts</b>	grit, growth mindset, measurement, persistence, ratios, weight
<b>Vocabulary for Reading Comprehension</b>	adjusts, admire, alerts, antennae, assistant, distractions, examine, finest, magnificent, pounces, pummels, relax, supplies, tinkers

**Early Math Project Resources:**

[A Most Magnificent Dog Directions](#) (English)

[El perro más maravilloso](#) (Spanish)

[Create a Car](#) (English and Spanish)

**Online Resources:**

Extension Activities for Educators:

[STEAM themed, project based lessons](#) for whole, small or independent learning groups.

[Guide for Parents and Families](#)  
Reading and related activity ideas.

**Spanish Title:** *La idea más maravillosa*

**Copyright:** 2011

**ISBN:** 9788479428235

**Also available in:**  
Braille, French

**Related Books:** *Rosie Revere, Engineer* by Andrea Beaty, *If I Build a Car* by Chris Van Dusen

**Find this book at your local library:** <https://www.worldcat.org/title/most-magnificent-thing/oclc/937900921>

Age Level	Related Preschool Foundations and CA State Standards
Infant/ Toddler	<b>Problem Solving</b> The developing ability to engage in a powerful effort to reach a goal or figure out how something works.
Preschool/ TK	<b>Mathematical Reasoning 1.0</b> Children use mathematical thinking to solve problems that arise in their everyday environment.
Kindergarten	<b>Standards for Mathematical Practice: 1.</b> Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
Grade 1	<b>Standards for Mathematical Practice: 1.</b> Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
Grade 2	<b>Standards for Mathematical Practice: 1.</b> Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
Grade 3	<b>Standards for Mathematical Practice: 1.</b> Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

