

# Guided Reading Lesson Plan (Levels M-Z)

Title: Encyclopedia of Modern Wonders

Level: Q

ISBN: 9781418937072

Publisher: Rigby

Before Reading: (5-7 min.) **Students can Buddy-Read this book and answer the questions over two days.**

\*Summarize plot (M)

When one of America's greatest architects, Frank Lloyd Wright, was a youngster he played with blocks for hours. Perhaps you spend hours building with Lego bricks. It takes extraordinary people to build skyscrapers, but this book describes, very briefly, seven mind-blowing constructions.

\*Discuss pictures (M)

\*Unfamiliar book language/character names (S)

\*Draw upon students' experiences (M) What is the tallest building you have ever been in? Did you go to the top of it?

Words/Text Layout:

\*New or important words (V) There is a glossary. Explain what an encyclopedia is and that the graphic on the left-hand side shows the entire alphabet but only a few entries are included in this book.

Suggested Teaching Point (Behaviors to Notice and Support) or focus on a Comprehension Strategy:

***connections, questions, inferences, visualizing, summarizing, synthesizing, determining importance***

Since the descriptions of each site are so brief, readers will think of at least one question per site for further research.

During Reading: (10-15 min.)

Students silently read the text. You may choose to listen to a few students whisper read the text, if reading fluency is a concern. While students are silently reading, you can start another group or conference with students who are independently reading.

After Reading: (8-10 min.)

\*Discuss the story

-clarify confusion, revisiting parts of the text that posed problems for readers

-acknowledge partially correct responses, seeking to understand students' perspectives

**Make a photocopy of the questions on the following page for the buddy-reading teams to answer.**

Writing Connection: (optional)

Students will write down questions for which they could do additional research.

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## Aswan High Dam

What made the building of this dam necessary? (p.6) (Inference)

What often happens when humans interfere with nature? (p.8) (Synthesis)

## Big Ben

Big Ben is *not* a tower, not four clocks, but a \_\_\_\_\_. (p.9) (Knowledge)

How soon from right now will Big Ben toll again? (p.10) (Connection)

How long did it take to repair the crack in Ben? (p.10) (Knowledge)

How do Brits know if lawmakers are working overtime? (p.11) (Inference)

## Eiffel Tower

Is it fair to say Gustave Eiffel built the tower? How many people worked on it? (p.13) (Knowledge)

Which phobia could none of the workers afford to have? (Inference)

What causes the Eiffel Tower to grow in the summer? (p.15) (Knowledge)

## Gateway Arch

How many years passed between when Saarinen won the contest to when the project began? (pp. 16 and 17 – sixteen years)

Why does it take longer to get to the top in a motorized tram than to return to the bottom? (p.19)

How strong would winds need to be to make the arch move nine inches either way? (p.18) (Math)

## Hoover Dam

Did Herbert Hoover build the dam? (p.20) (Comprehension)

Was the extreme hardship of the workers and their families worth it? (p.23) (Evaluation)

How does the author help you better understand the amount of concrete needed for the dam? (p.22)

Why are there pipes inside the dam? (p.22) (Knowledge and comprehension)

Irony: the workers had to deal with holding back river **water** and **cooling** the concrete while at the same time lacking **heat** in the winter and having no safe drinking **water**.

## Mt. Rushmore

It's amazing that it took only six years to carve the faces. Why wasn't the project completed until fourteen years after work on it began? (p.25)

If a fifth face could be added, whose should it be?

If an eye is 132 inches wide and the average actual eye is 1.25 inches, how long would the carved noses be if an average actual nose is 2.50 inches? (Algebra)  $\frac{132}{1.25} = \frac{264}{2.50}$  inches, or 22 feet

$$\frac{132}{1.25} = \frac{264}{2.50}$$

## Petronas Twin Towers

Who can claim, "My tower is higher than your tower"? (p.28) (Comprehension)

If you worked on the 88<sup>th</sup> floor, would you take the stairs or the elevator? (Connection)

Was the huge expense absolutely necessary for an oil company's headquarters? (Google: funding was provided by local casinos, cell phone/communication empires, and international satellite communication companies.)

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