

## Resources for Steve Spangler Workshop Leprechauns, & April Fool's Fun

ow do we connect multicultural picture books with STEM to help children engage in active discovery and enthusiastic learning across the curriculum? Steve's workshop gives you the fun themed STEM activities your kids will love. This PDF helps provide ideas for picture books you can pair with the different themes.

## Books That Connect Leprechauns, Architecture, Engineering, And Women in STEM!



What better way to start your leprechaun fun than with books that capture the fun of trying to design and build leprechaun traps? Check out the following books to provide background information on leprechauns and to set the stage for your own STEM-based leprechaun trap building fun:

- How to Trap a Leprechaun by Sue Fliess, illustrated by Emma Randall
- Pete the Cat: The Great Leprechaun Chase by James Dean
- St. Patrick's Day by Anne Rockwell, illustrated by Lizzy Rockwell
- How to Catch a Leprechaun by Adam Wallace, illustrated by Andy Elkerton





leprechauns and women's history month usually coincide, why not introduce real-life architects and engineers as STEM role models? Their designs might just inspire your leprechaun trap makers! Here are some book ideas for you:

- She Persisted: Maya Lin by Grace Lin
- Maya Lin: Thinking With Her Hands by Susan Goldman Rubin
- The World Is Not a Rectangle: A Portrait of Architect Zaha Hadid Jeanette Winter
- Secret Engineer: How Emily Roebling Built the Brooklyn Bridge Rachel Dougherty
- Shaking Things Up: 14 Young Women Who Changed the World by Susan Hood
- Dreaming Up: Celebration of Building by Christy Hale
- Women of Steel and Stone by Anna M. Lewis



Building a leprechaun trap requires persistence and a willingness to try again, even when you fail. That's one of the most valuable lessons young STEM designers can learn. Here are some wonderful books that connect to the perseverance required for young leprechaun trap builders.

How to Code a Sandcastle (Josh Funk/Sara Palacios) takes you through the basics of coding and trial and error as a young girl tries to build a sandcastle.

If you want a fun, fanciful read to connect with the scientific method, check out **Fairy Science** by Ashley Spires.











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**Goldilocks and the Three Engineers** (Sue Fliess/Petros Bouloubasis) takes a beyond ever after look at the story of The Three Bears and imagines what would happen if the four joined forces to design, build, and test, something new and amazing!

**Boxitects** (Kim Smith), **Made by Maxine** (Ruth Spiro/Holly Hatam), **The Most Magnificent Thing** (Ashley Spires), and **Rosie Revere, Engineer** (Andrea Beaty/David Roberts) all examine the engineering/design process and the stick-to-itiveness needed by young engineers.

**Penny, The Engineering Tail of the Fourth Little Pig** (Kimberly Derting/Shelli R. Johannes/Hannah Marks) and **The Three Little Pigs, An Architectural Tale** (Steven Guarnaccia) offer a look at how architectural design impacts the outcome in the Three Little Pigs story.

## **April Fool's Day Fun**



Steve Spangler is clearly full of enough fun practical joke ideas to make this day last a week. **BUT**, if you are looking for fun read-aloud connections to supplement the laughter, you'll want to check out **April Fool, Phyllis** (Susanna Leonard Hill/Jeffrey Ebbeler). As a bonus, this author/illustrator team also published my all-time favorite Groundhog's Day book, **Punxsutawney Phyllis**!

Looking for more strategies for building connections between multicultural picture books and engaged STEM learning across the curriculum? Reach out to me at <u>diane@drdianeadventures.com</u>. I would love to help your school put together a professional development package that inspires and delights your early childhood and elementary teachers.



