



WEEK 3

Map Your World

What makes your world, real or imagined, unique and interesting?
How can you make your world a better place?

Build Your Own Dream Home (or space station or castle...)

Your Quest:

Brainstorm and design your dream space, castle or home. Then bring it to life using simple kitchen ingredients, such as marshmallows, pretzels, peanut butter or more!

By embarking on this quest, you will gain the following skills:

- Self-expression through sculpture
- Understanding of what community and home mean to you
- Design thinking skills

Mission Materials:

- Blank sheet of paper
- Pencil or crayons
- A solid building structure: marshmallows or pasta
- A glue for your building structure: pretzels, icing, water or peanut butter

Mission Directions:

1. Think about what your quest is. Where does it take place? Where you would live, and what would you live in? Is it a castle? A home? A space station?
2. Once you have an idea of what your home base would be like, sketch it out on a blank piece of paper. Draw what you imagine! Once you've mapped out your dream space, gather your supplies and take them to an empty counter or other open space to begin building.
3. You're going to use the marshmallows or pasta as the building blocks for your space. Start by laying them down flat on a solid surface to mimic the shape of what you've drawn.
4. Now that you've mapped out what your space is supposed to look like, bring it to life by connecting the building blocks. Keep building until your dream space is in front of you.
 - a. Building Options: You'll need to connect your building blocks with either peanut butter, icing or pretzels. To do this, you'll need to smear the sides of your building



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blocks with peanut butter or icing, or stick the pretzels through the marshmallows to connect them into a solid structure. Another option would be to dip the marshmallows in water and let their natural stickiness bind them against each other.

5. Ready to clean up? Have your creation as a snack!

Level Up:

- Create with a family member or friend, and see how different, or similar, your dream homes are.
- Create other structures you can imagine! See if you can build your dreamland a community using the same skills we used to build your dream home.
- Take it a step further, and create a map of your quest's land. What would it look like? What would be there? What would you call your land?

More to Explore at the Library:

- Read *Coraline* by author Neil Gaiman and illustrator Dave McKean, and journey with Coraline as she wanders around her new home and discovers a door leading to a familiar, but strange, alternate world. This title can be found on [NYPL's 125 Kids Books We Love](#).
- Read *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by author Grace Lin, and follow Minli as she leaves her home and village to find a way to help her struggling village, as she discovers the true meaning of home, community and family. This is another title from [NYPL's 125 Kids Books We Love](#).
- Read *Esperanza Rising* by author Pam Muñoz Ryan and illustrator Joe Cepeda. Esperanza is uprooted from her home in Mexico when a feud over land forces her and her family to flee to California. In America, Esperanza struggles to find her place and rebuild a home with her family. Guess what? You can find this title on [NYPL's 125 Kids Books We Love](#).

Your Reward:

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