Reader's Guide for "Surf Soup TV and the Farting Surfboard: Surfing Laughter and Magic"

By Donna Kay Lau ISBN: 978-1-956022-84-1

Introduction

"Surf Soup TV and the Farting Surfboard: Surfing Laughter and Magic" is a delightful tale that combines humor, adventure, and the spirit of surfing. This guide is designed to help teachers and parents engage children with the story through fun and educational STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) activities.

Summary of the Book

Koa, the protagonist, is on a hilarious and magical quest to train for the Olympics with his unique surfboard that has a mind of its own. Through his adventures, Koa learns valuable lessons about perseverance, creativity, and the importance of environmental conservation.

Discussion Questions

What makes Koa's surfboard special? How does Koa prepare for his Olympic journey? What are some of the challenges Koa faces, and how does he overcome them? Why is it important to take care of our oceans, as highlighted in the book? How do Koa's friends help him on his journey? STEAM Activities Science: Ocean Ecosystems

Activity: Create a mini ocean ecosystem in a jar.

Materials: Glass jar, sand, small rocks, seashells, plastic plants, water, blue food coloring.

Instructions: Fill the jar with sand and rocks to simulate the ocean floor. Add seashells and plastic plants. Fill with water and add a few drops of blue food coloring. Discuss the importance of each element in the ocean ecosystem and how pollution affects marine life.

Technology: Surfboard Design

Activity: Design a futuristic surfboard.

Materials: Paper, pencils, markers, rulers, and internet access for research.

Instructions: Research different surfboard designs and materials. Draw your own design for a surfboard,

considering factors like stability, speed, and durability. Discuss how technology can improve surfboard performance and safety.

Engineering: Build a Wave Simulator

Activity: Create a simple wave simulator to understand how waves work.

Materials: Large tray, water, blue food coloring, small toy boats, and rocks.

Instructions: Fill the tray with water and add blue food coloring. Place rocks at one end to simulate the shore. Gently tilt the tray to create waves. Observe how the waves move and how they affect the toy boats. Discuss the physics of wave motion and how surfers use waves. Arts: Surfboard Art

Activity: Decorate a surfboard template.

Materials: Surfboard template printouts, crayons, markers, stickers, glitter.

Instructions: Provide each child with a surfboard template. Let them decorate it with their own designs, using colors and patterns that reflect their personalities. Display the decorated surfboards in a classroom or at home. Discuss the role of art in surf culture.

Mathematics: Measuring Waves

Activity: Measure and record wave heights.

Materials: Ruler, notebook, and pencil.

Instructions: If possible, visit a local beach. Observe and measure the height of waves over a set period. Record the measurements in a notebook. Calculate the average wave height and discuss factors that influence wave size. If a beach visit isn't possible, use videos or images of waves for the activity.

Environmental Conservation Activity

Activity: Organize a beach clean-up or a local park clean-up. Materials: Trash bags, gloves, recycling bins.

Instructions: Gather a group of children to clean up a local beach or park. Teach them about the importance of keeping our environment clean and how trash can harm wildlife. Discuss ways to reduce waste and recycle materials.

Conclusion

Using this guide, teachers and parents can create a rich, interactive experience that combines the fun of reading "Surf Soup TV and the Farting Surfboard" with valuable educational activities. These STEAM activities will not only enhance children's understanding of the book but also instill a love for learning and a passion for protecting our environment.