



Let's Learn About Architect Philip Freelon, FAIA

Philip came from a family of artists and activists. Though he didn't know didn't know any architects growing up, he decided to study architecture. He focused on designing schools, libraries, and museums—including the incredible Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, where he was able to able to share his heritage with the whole country!





Lesson supported by:



Build a Structure Inspired by the Book!

Materials

Ask participants to save and bring cleaned, recycled items they have on-hand and add cardboard, cardstock, aluminum foil, pipe cleaners, popsicle sticks, glue sticks, tape, yarn, paper, etc. to add to increase creativity.

Steps

- 1 Break participants into small groups (3-6 depending on size of group).
- 2 Give each group 5 minutes to brainstorm what they will be build. Prompt them to consider shape, texture, materials and function. How would the featured architect or architectural concept apply to their design?
- 3 Allow groups access to the materials and start building either individually or as a group. (20-30 minutes).
- 4 Reflect on the build. Use suggestions or do your own!

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Reflection Suggestions

- Ask participants to share their build with group. What do they love about it? What was challenging?
- Display the finished builds together. Reflect on the differences in approaches and materials.
- Ask participants to share their inspiration for their build. How did they apply it to their design?
- Select a build and sketch it on paper from a chosen point of view (side, top, front). How did drawing reveal its design?

