Credit: Román Viñoly

Let's Learn About Architect
Rafael Viñoly

Rafael was a famous architect from Uruguay who designed buildings all over the world. He believed that architecture is about solving problems and creating spaces that work well and feel right. He loved using creativity to bring together ideas, materials, and people's needs to design something special. His work showed that great architecture isn't just about looking nice—it's about making a difference in the world.

Ages 10+

90 MINUTES		
	Reading	15
	Presentation	15
	Activity	60

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Lesson supported by:

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Build a Structure Inspired by the Book!

Materials

Ask participants to save and bring cleaned, recycled items they have on-hand. Add cardboard, cardstock, aluminum foil, pipe cleaners, popsicle sticks, glue sticks, glue sticks, tape, yarn, paper, etc. 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 build. Prompt participants to consider shape, texture, materials and function. How would an architect or design concept apply to their design?

3 Allow groups to access to the materials and start building either individually or as a group. (20-30 minutes).

4 Reflect on the build/s. Use the suggested reflection ideas in the next column or create your own.

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 the differences in approaches and materials.

- Ask participants to share their inspiration for their build. How did they apply design-thinking?

- Select one of the builds and have the groups sketch it on paper from a chosen point of view (side, top, front). How did drawing reveal its design?

credit: Christopher Garcia