

Lesson Plan

A Machine for Every Job

Book: *Big Machines That Build*

Series: Big Machines

Level: Scout

Objective

To help students use labels and images to understand key details in a text.

Supplies

- *Big Machines That Build* book
- Paper
- Crayons or markers

Before the Activity

Read through the *Big Machines That Build* book, or assign it to students to read on their own. Make sure each student has a sheet of paper and crayons or markers.

Activity

The book describes some of the many machines that help people build. Use the following prompts to review what each machine does and the parts that help it do this job:

Pages 4–5:

- What are these dump trucks doing? (Sample Answer: They are moving dirt.)
- Point to the labeled part on the truck that says “bed.” How does the truck’s bed help it move dirt? (Sample Answer: The bed has walls to keep the dirt in place.)

Pages 6–7:

- What does a concrete truck do? (Sample Answer: It brings concrete to building sites.)
- Point to the part labeled “drum.” How does a drum help a concrete truck do its job? (Sample Answer: The drum spins. It mixes a lot of concrete.)
- Point to the part labeled “chute.” How does a chute help the truck do its job? (Sample Answer: The chute brings concrete to the right place.)

Pages 8–9:

- What does a crane do? (Sample Answer: It lifts heavy things.)
- Point to the part labeled “hook.” How does a hook help a crane do its job? (Sample Answer: The hook connects the heavy objects to the crane.)

Page 10–11:

- Point to the image labeled “paver.” What does a paver do? (Sample Answer: It lays down asphalt.)
- Point to the image labeled “road roller.” How does a road roller help make roads? (Sample Answer: It makes the asphalt smooth and flat.)
- What part of the road roller helps it do its job? (Sample Answer: It has two big wheels that flatten the road.)

Page 12–13:

- What does a bulldozer do? (Sample Answer: A bulldozer pushes dirt out of the way.)
- Point to the part labeled “track.” How does a track help a bulldozer do its job? (Sample Answer: It helps the bulldozer go over dirt and hills without getting stuck.)

Page 14–15:

- What does this machine do? (Answer: It digs holes.)
- Point to the part labeled “bucket.” How does a bucket help this machine do its job? (Sample Answer: The bucket scoops and holds dirt.)

Next, have students draw their own machine at work. They should use an arrow to label one part of it. Ask volunteers to share with the class what their machine is doing and how the labeled part helps it do its job.

Evaluation

Could students tell how the labeled parts helped each machine do its job? Were they able to draw and label their own machines?

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards’ reading standards for informational text, grade 1 (RI 1.1, 1.7).