

The Stick



Book Information

Run Time	6:34
Author	Clay Rice
Illustrator	Clay Rice
Narrator	Laura Post
Publisher	Familius
Ages	3–8+
Genre	Fiction
Text Structure	The first story of the little boy using a stick to inspire his imagination is repeated when, as an old man, he gives a little girl the stick.
Themes & Ideas	imagination, inspiration
Language & Literary Features	some rhyming
Sentence Complexity	complex sentences
Vocabulary	unusual, pirate, knight, steed, carved, paddled, canoe, highlands, rising tides, fencer, surfer
Special Vocabulary	imagination, inspiration
Illustrations	Many illustrations are silhouettes—characteristic of Clay Rice.

Story Summary

The Stick is the story of a little boy who finds a stick in the park and reads the inspiring words carved into it, his life begins to change and he uses it to imagine all he could be. During his life he accomplishes his dreams. Sitting in the park as an old man, he passes the stick on to another child to ignite her imagination and help her realize all her dreams.



Lesson Focus

Imagination

Activity Ideas

Inspirational Message

Write an inspirational message that encourages someone to use their imagination.

Write a Story

Write a story about what the little girl does with the stick when she gets old.

Additional activities can be found in the following pages of this document.

The Stick

A young boy, left out of the other children’s play, finds a special stick leaning against a tree. The words written on it spark his imagination. He grows up to do great things, and then passes the legacy on to the next child.

Discuss the story and write your answers together.

What is *The Stick* about?

What would you play if you had no toys?

How have you used your imagination?

**Have you ever heard the saying, “If you can dream it, you can do it”?
What do you think that means?**

What do you dream of doing when you are older?

The Stick

Pause at the indicated time stamps and discuss the story

0:36

How do you think the little boy feels?
Why do you think he feels that way?

0:50

What makes you sad?

1:13

Where do you think the stick came from?

1:35

What would you do with a stick?

2:33

When do you use your imagination?

4:00

What does the old man use the stick for?

4:50

Why do you think the old man did this?

5:17

What do you think will happen?

6:10

Why is the old man smiling?

After viewing the Book:

1. What does “Imagination lives in you. It’s the fire in all you do. Use it well, and you can be anything you want to be.” mean to you?
2. What do you think the little girl will do with the stick. Why do you think that?



Drawing and Writing

NAME _____

The little boy and girl in *The Stick* used their imagination to turn a stick into anything they wanted it to be. What would you turn the stick into? Draw a picture of what you would turn the stick into and finish the sentence below.



I would turn the stick into _____
_____.

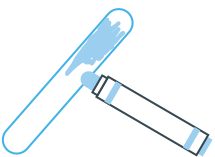
Craft Stick Superheroes

Materials

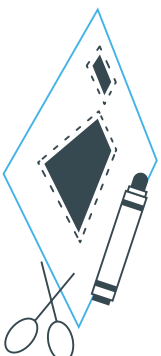
- Craft Sticks (one per superhero)
- Coloring Utensils
- Googly Eyes (two per superhero)
- Glue
- Scissors
- Paper

Instructions

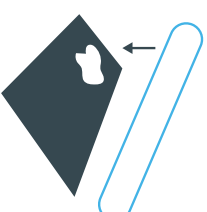
1. Color the entire craft stick any color.



2. Color and cut out the triangle cape and the rectangle mask.



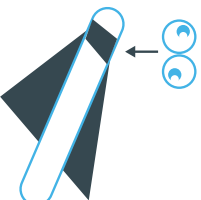
3. Glue the craft stick onto the triangle cape.



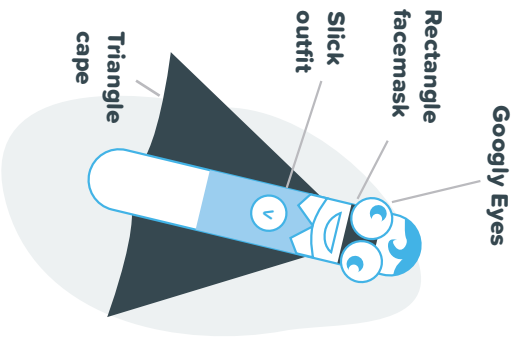
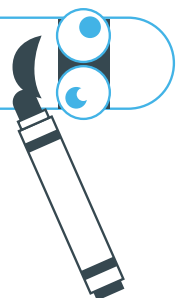
4. Glue the rectangle mask onto the front of the craft stick.



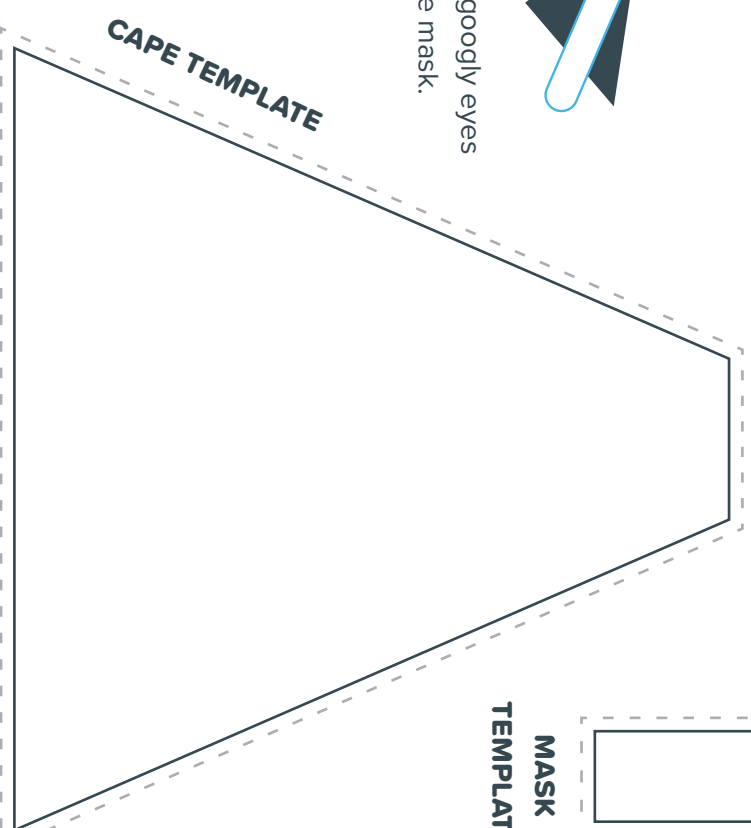
5. Glue 2 googly eyes onto the mask.



6. Draw a mouth below the mask.



MASK
TEMPLATE



Find the words from *The Stick* word bank in the word search below.

The word can be positioned in all directions, written from left to right, from right to left, horizontally, vertically, and diagonally, but is always on one straight line.

Word Bank

- NEIGHBORHOOD
- PIRATE
- BASEBALL
- KNIGHT
- STEED
- IMAGINATION
- FIRE
- FISHERMAN
- CANOE
- HIKER
- INSPIRATION
- AIRPLANE
- STICK
- PRINCESS
- SURFER

K	Y	N	S	W	P	L	V	S	B	R	N	T	I	D	E	D	X	W	Q
C	C	F	E	M	B	Z	H	U	L	D	J	N	R	Z	R	G	O	N	M
I	W	L	V	I	N	A	M	R	E	H	S	I	F	S	I	M	Y	D	F
T	P	K	L	E	G	W	Q	F	P	P	Z	N	K	J	Z	A	I	B	K
S	D	W	L	A	M	H	F	E	I	Z	N	G	K	I	X	X	M	Z	Z
B	P	U	E	H	B	H	B	R	P	Y	O	I	B	D	T	Z	A	V	S
J	D	R	S	N	X	E	A	O	V	S	M	J	W	U	V	U	G	L	S
J	I	O	D	C	D	T	S	L	R	Z	B	D	I	C	N	J	I	U	I
F	J	K	D	D	I	M	R	A	V	H	X	C	M	U	G	N	N	Y	I
X	Z	N	B	O	O	K	T	K	B	G	O	A	P	J	F	V	A	I	Y
F	U	V	N	S	K	Z	N	B	U	D	B	O	L	W	I	O	T	S	Z
N	S	N	C	P	H	U	R	I	E	X	Y	H	D	F	L	T	I	Y	O
T	Y	F	E	O	Q	A	I	S	G	O	G	A	S	R	Z	X	O	F	D
T	D	E	N	D	U	Z	Y	P	I	H	W	A	O	I	R	N	N	R	N
T	O	N	Z	I	E	E	O	N	A	C	T	J	W	P	Q	F	Y	W	P
D	S	E	F	Y	Q	R	J	Y	R	Y	M	X	C	X	H	R	J	N	C
L	Q	F	B	V	Y	D	X	T	G	B	S	R	E	X	J	E	E	H	F
J	Z	Y	F	R	J	E	I	X	C	S	W	W	N	T	N	Y	T	V	B
H	F	G	T	V	I	F	E	T	E	E	C	Q	A	G	B	N	O	G	Z
W	Z	N	P	B	S	Z	Y	C	I	R	D	E	L	Y	P	X	L	U	U
L	N	S	S	V	G	C	N	U	Y	S	E	B	P	R	M	W	P	B	M
Q	D	L	T	W	P	I	S	E	T	E	I	K	R	S	W	K	W	Q	S
I	A	X	P	I	R	A	T	E	Z	L	D	F	I	G	I	U	R	R	T
O	L	L	O	P	C	K	E	L	K	J	E	E	A	H	Z	N	O	C	I
H	U	X	P	M	M	D	K	V	A	N	I	B	S	O	N	X	W	E	Q