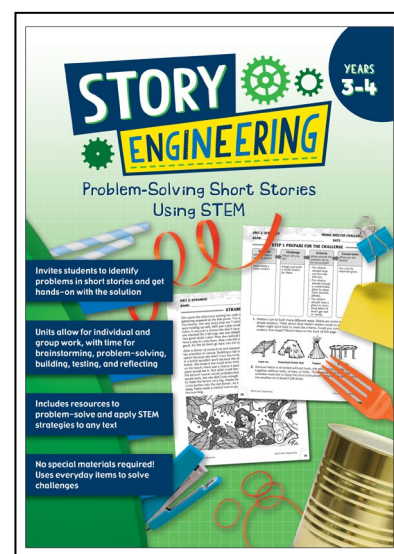


Story engineering

Problem-solving short stories using STEM, Years 3–4

Tracy Edmunds

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Type	Classroom resource
Level	Primary
Topics	STEM Literacy Teaching practice



Summary

Bring excitement into your classroom by inviting students to use STEM to problem-solve and provide solutions for challenges mentioned in original stories.

These fun and engaging stories have been specifically developed to include several problems – some obvious and some not so obvious. After identifying multiple problems in each story by rereading and analysing the text, students can then work as a team to focus on developing a solution to one of the highlighted issues. Teams then use the engineering design process to plan, build, test and improve their solution using recycled materials and common, everyday supplies. Finally, students reflect on their experience through writing short-answer responses.

This integration of literacy and STEM allows students to acquire and practise skills in both areas. There may be a bit of a learning curve at first, but once students understand how engineering challenges work, they really dive into them. Your biggest problem may be getting them to wrap things up!

Other resources

- *Story engineering: Problem-solving short stories using STEM, Years 1–2* (TCR6098)
- *Story engineering: Problem-solving short stories using STEM, Years 5–6* (TCR6111)
- *STEM: Engaging hands-on challenges using everyday materials, Year 1* (TCR7927)
- *STEM: Engaging hands-on challenges using everyday materials, Year 2* (TCR7934)
- *STEM: Engaging hands-on challenges using everyday materials, Year 3* (TCR7941)
- *STEM: Engaging hands-on challenges using everyday materials, Year 4* (TCR7958)
- *STEM: Engaging hands-on challenges using everyday materials, Year 5* (TCR7965)