

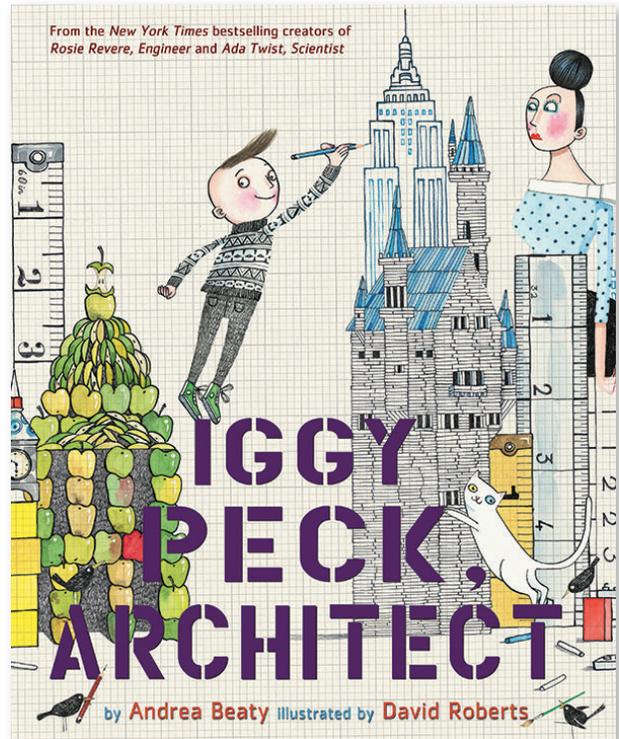


# IGGY PECK, ARCHITECT

## Reader's Theater



**R**ead the book aloud to children first, so that they can enjoy the illustrations and become familiar with the story. Then, hand out a set of photocopied scripts to ten students. (For challenged readers who may need group support, consider a role in the Chorus; for challenged readers to whom you'd like to assign a brief part, consider Father.) Ask the remaining children to be the audience. If you have time, allow students to practice their parts individually or as a group until they are reading fluently. If time is limited, have performers face the audience and simply read their parts on the first run-through. Because the text is written in rhyme, you will want to emphasize the necessity of maintaining the rhythm throughout. Once all readers are comfortable with their parts, have a second reading with the opportunity to use props or costumes, if desired, and to act out the story while reading.



### ROLES

- Iggy Peck**
- Mother**
- Father**
- Miss Lila Greer**
- Narrator One**
- Narrator Two**
- Narrator Three**
- Chorus (three readers)**

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ON SALE 11.5.19



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By Andrea Beaty, Illustration © David Roberts

# IGGY PECK, ARCHITECT

## Reader's Theater

**Narrator One:**

Young Iggy Peck is an architect and has been since he was two,

**Narrator Two:**

when he built a great tower—

**Chorus:**

in only an hour

**Narrator Two:**

—with nothing but diapers and glue.

**Mother:**

Good gracious, Ignacious!

**Chorus:**

His mother exclaimed.

**Mother:**

That's the coolest thing I've ever seen!

**Narrator Three:**

But her smile faded fast as a light wind blew past and she realized those diapers weren't clean!

**Mother:**

Ignacious, my son! What on earth have you done? That's disgusting and nasty! It stinks!

**Narrator One:**

But Iggy was gone. He was out on the lawn using dirt clods to build a great sphinx.

**Narrator Two:**

When Iggy was three, his parents could see his unusual passion would stay.

**Iggy Peck:**

I built churches and chapels from peaches and apples, and temples from modeling clay.

**Father:**

At dinner one night, to my certain delight, Iggy got a bright gleam in his eye, and out on the porch built the St. Louis arch from pancakes and coconut pie.

**Narrator Three:**

Dear Ig had it made until second grade when his teacher was Miss Lila Greer.

**Narrator One:**

On the very first day, she had this to say:

**Miss Lila Greer:**

We do not talk of buildings in here! Gothic or Romanesque, I couldn't care less about buildings—ancient or new.

**Iggy Peck:**

(Shocked.)

She said in her lecture about architecture that it had no place in grade two!

**Narrator Two:**

That might seem severe, but she was sincere. For when she was no more than seven,

**Narrator Three:**

She'd had a great fright at a dizzying height in a building so tall it scraped heaven.

**Narrator One:**

On an architect's tour on the ninety-fifth floor, young Lila got lost from the group.

**Narrator Two:**

She was found two days later in a stuck elevator, eating cheese . . .

**Chorus:**

with a French circus troupe.

**Miss Lila Greer:**

After that day—it's quite safe to say—I thought all building lovers were nuts.

**Narrator Three:**

As a teacher, she taught that above all, one ought to avoid them.

**Chorus:**

No *ifs*, *ands*, or *buts*!

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# IGGY PECK, ARCHITECT

## Reader's Theater

**Narrator One:**

As you might guess, it would cause Iggy stress to hear such terrible talk.

**Narrator Two:**

But he didn't hear. He sat in the rear while building a castle of chalk.

**Miss Lila Greer:**

You! Iggy Peck! Your desk is a wreck! Tear down that castle right now! You will not build in here. Is that perfectly clear? Do you need to see Principal Howe?

**Iggy Peck:**

"No, Ma'am," I just said. I lowered my head, and my heart sank down to the floor.

**Narrator Three:**

With no chance to build, his interest was killed.

**Chorus:**

Now second grade was a bore.

**Narrator One:**

After twelve long days that passed in a haze of reading, writing, and arithmetic,

**Miss Lila Greer:**

I herded the class to Blue River Pass for a hike and an old-fashioned picnic.

**Narrator Two:**

They crossed an old trestle to a small island nestled in the heart of a burbling stream.

**Narrator Three:**

But they no sooner passed than the footbridge collapsed and Miss Lila Greer started to . . .

**Chorus: scream!**

**Miss Lila Greer:** We're trapped here! Oh my! Alas, kids, good-bye!

**Narrator One:**

Her eyeballs rolled back in her head. She dropped to the ground with a vague groaning sound.

**Chorus:**

Luckily fainted—not dead.

**Narrator Two:**

The class was amazed. They stood there quite dazed, uncertain of what they should do.

**Iggy Peck:**

I'm a bright young man. I was hatching a plan, which started with Miss Lila's shoe.

**Narrator Three:**

Soon each lad and lass there at Blue River Pass was working together as one.

**Miss Lila Greer:**

And when I came to, I most certainly knew that something quite brave had been done.

**Narrator One:**

She looked in the air and saw hanging there a structure with cables and braces.

**Narrator Two:**

And on the far side—beaming with pride—were seventeen smiling young faces.

**Iggy Peck:**

Boots, tree roots and strings, fruit roll-ups and things—

**Chorus:**

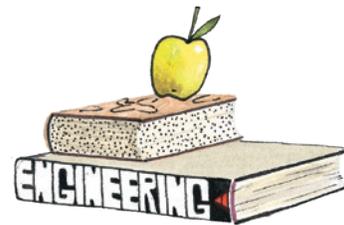
some of which one should not mention—

**Iggy Peck:**

were stretched ridge to ridge in a glorious bridge dangling from shoestring suspension.

**Miss Lila Greer:**

It all became clear to me, Lila Greer, as I crossed that bridge over the stream. There are worse things to do when you're in grade two than to spend your time building a dream.



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# IGGY PECK, ARCHITECT

## Reader's Theater

**Narrator Three:**

Now every week at Blue River Creek Elementary in second grade,

**Narrator One:**

all the school kids can hear—

**Miss Lila Greer:**

with me, Lila Greer—

**Narrator Two:**

how the world's greatest buildings were made.

**Narrator Three:**

The weekly guest speaker, in T-shirt and sneakers, talks of buildings from Rome to Quebec.

**Iggy Peck:**

Of course, I'm the guy who builds towers from pie.

**Chorus:**

He's that brilliant young man, Iggy Peck.

Adapted by Toni Buzzeo from the bestselling picture book by Andrea Beaty and David Roberts.



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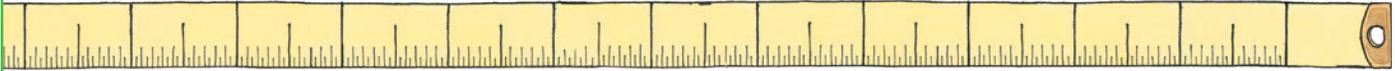
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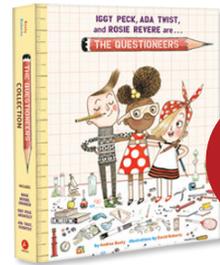
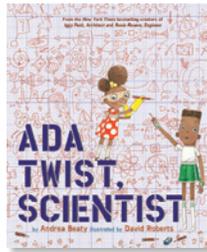
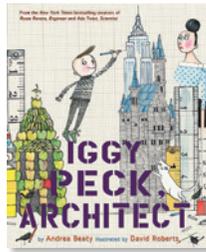
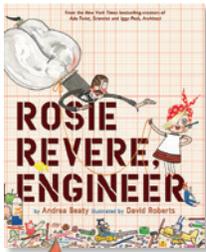
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from *New York Times* bestselling team Andrea Beaty and David Roberts



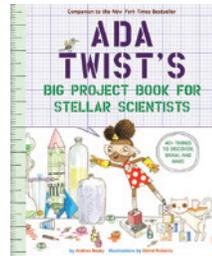
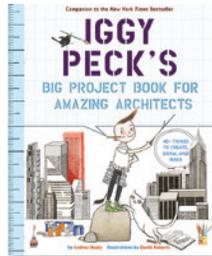
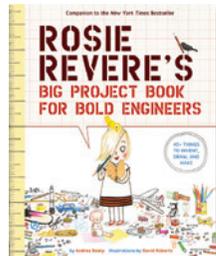
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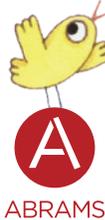
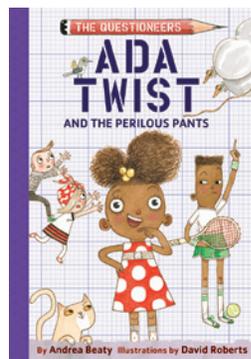
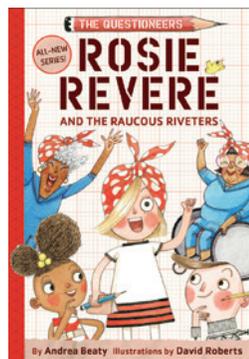
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