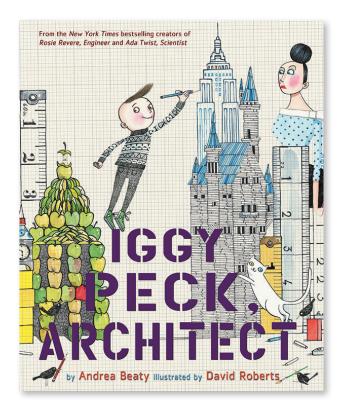
THE QUESTIONEERS

IGGY PECK, ARCHITECT Reader's Theater

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.



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ROLES

lggy Peck Mother Father Miss Lila Greer Narrator One Narrator Two Narrator Three Chorus (three readers)

COLLECT THEM ALL!



READ. QUESTION. THINK. 🚦 THE QUESTIONEERS

Questioneers.com By Andrea Beaty, Illustration () Da<u>vid Roberts</u>

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.

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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, lggy 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!

COLLECT THEM ALL!



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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.

laav 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.



COLLECT THEM ALL!





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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COLLECT THEM ALL!



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Questioneers.com By Andrea Beaty, Illustration () David Roberts

