

Storytime Activity Guide

Jabari Tries

Created and illustrated by Gaia Cornwall

Jabari builds a flying machine but struggles to make it work. With patience, creativity, encouragement from his dad, and help from his sister, he learns that perseverance can turn challenges into success.

Did you know?

A good foundation in **early math** prepares children for “math thinking,” and for later academic success. **Early Math** includes number sense, classifications and patterning, measurement, mathematical reasoning, and geometry (shapes). While reading *Jabari Tries*, make predictions and encourage your child to help Jabari to problem solve to develop your child’s early math skills.



Words to Practice

ramp
soar
sketch
plan
frustrated

Talk about it!

As you read *Jabari Tries*, ask your child to think about Jabari’s problem and come up with ideas that may help his flying machine soar across the sky.

“What can Jabari try next?”. “What do you think Jabari’s flying machine needs?”. “Should Jabari change his ramp or his flying machine?”. “What would you do?”

Jabari feels frustrated and takes deep breaths to feel better. Ask your child, what makes you feel better when you are frustrated?”

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Create!

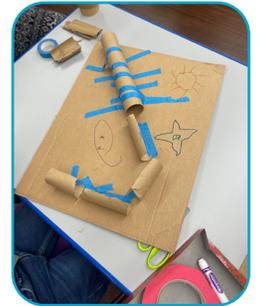
Make a Ball Run to practice problem solving and persistence as well as counting, geometry and measurement skills!

- Materials needed:**
- Flat piece of cardboard
 - Tall and short craft tubes
 - Masking Tape
 - Markers



You may use a box with sides for this project, but if your cardboard doesn't have sides you will need to make "walls" or stops so your ping pong balls don't fall out.

1. Allow your child to play with the tubes and ping pong balls. Ask them to test if the balls will fit through the tube. Ask, **"Does it fit?"**, **"What can we do to help the ball roll through the tube?"** **What size do we need the craft tubes to be? Should we cut them?**
2. Plan an initial layout of your ball run and tape down your craft tubes. This is the problem solving and persistence part of the challenge, deciding how to line up your tunnels and half pipes so that the ping pong ball will roll down into your hole at the bottom.
3. Place the ball at the top and watch it roll down to the bottom. If the ball is not running through the entire layout, move tubes and half pipes as needed. Ask: **"What can we do to keep the ball from rolling off of the cardboard?"**, **"How can we move the tunnels of half pipes so the ball will run through the entire layout?"**
4. Keep practicing and testing until you get a winning layout! Decorate your ball run with markers.
5. Try using other small objects you find at home and see if they can go through the ball run.



Play: Ramp Play

- Explore ramps outdoors such as slides and hills. Find out what ramp is harder to go up or down, what surface is easier to go up or down, etc.
- Roll different objects down a ramp (driveway, hill, slide). Notice how the texture of the object or the surface changes how the object moves.
- Play a game of "Faster, Slower." Set up a piece of cardboard so that it makes a gentle incline. Have your child roll a ball down the ramp. Challenge her to change the ramp incline so the ball moves slower/faster.