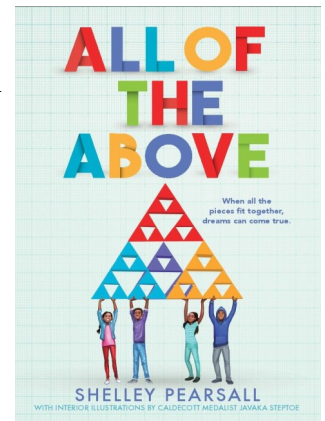


ALL OF THE ABOVE Reading Guide

Inspired by a true story, *ALL OF THE ABOVE* is the delightful and suspenseful story of four urban teens in Cleveland, Ohio and their quest to build a spectacular 16,384-piece rainbow pyramid called a tetrahedron. Weaving together the voices of the teens and their community, award-winning author Shelley Pearsall has written an engaging novel about math, life, and the determination of the human spirit. A popular choice for school-wide reading. For 5th to 8th grades. **ALA Notable Book 2020 Mathical Honor Book**



Available in audiobook, paperback, and e-book

Curriculum Connections

LANGUAGE ARTS

Decorate tetrahedron shapes with character details, illustrations, vocabulary, quotes, and other favorite book details. Then tape the shapes together to create a cool 3-D "book report"

MATHEMATICS

Check out the following NCTM website for directions on making a tetrahedral kite:
<http://illuminations.nctm.org>
Search: tetrahedrons

ART

Study the geometric creations of artist M.C. Escher. Create an Escher-inspired design or tessellation.

RESEARCH

Read nonfiction books about the Vietnam War. Interview a local veteran or visit the Veterans History Project (Library of Congress website):
www.loc.gov/vets/

READER'S THEATER

With seven different character voices, *ALL OF THE ABOVE* makes a great Reader's Theater choice. Assign parts and simple props and read the story aloud. Add extra interest with a podcast interviewing the "characters."

NARRATIVE WRITING

Have students add a short chapter to the novel written in their own voice -- as if they are now part of the project. Include dialogue with the other characters. Or create a new voice for the story

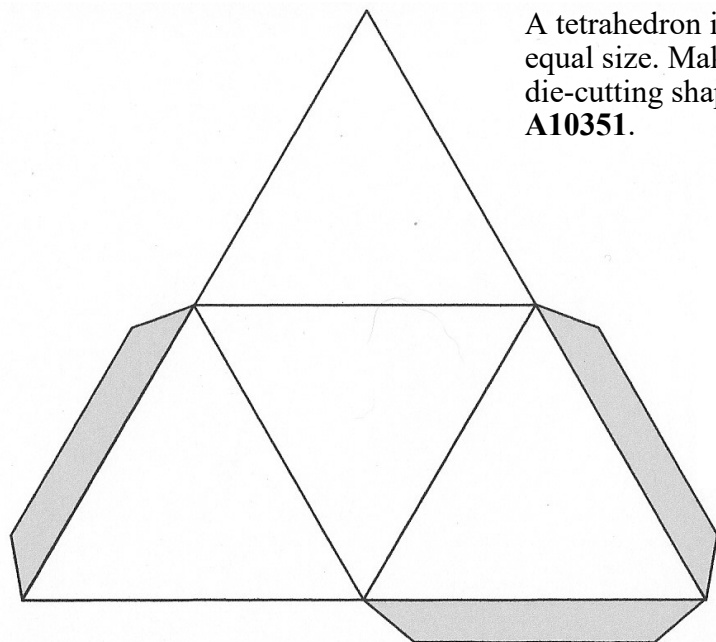
One Day Read Aloud Challenge

Challenge your school to read *ALL OF THE ABOVE* together in one day!

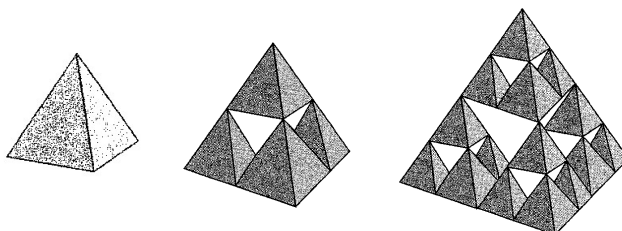
Build community spirit and support reading & STEM skills

Visit the site: www.onebookoneday.com to find out more.

How to Build a Tetrahedron



A tetrahedron is a type of pyramid made up of four triangles of equal size. Make copies of the pattern or purchase a tetrahedron die-cutting shape from www.ellisoneducation.com, product # A10351.



Fold and tape your tetrahedrons together in groups of four to form larger tetrahedrons: 4, 16, 64, 256, 1024, 4096, 16384 and so on. **Hints for building bigger structures:** Use heavy paper and lots of tape. Yardsticks can be attached to support sides.

Discussion Questions

1. How is each character important to the project? Describe the contribution of each.
2. What scene or character had the biggest impact on you? Why?
3. Reread Mr. Collins words on pages 3, 99, 199 and 235. In what ways do the characters mirror the qualities of a tetrahedron? (Who represents the glue? The sharp edges? The hidden spaces?)
4. Why do you think Shelley Pearsall titled her book ALL OF THE ABOVE? What does "all of the above" mean? How does the title connect to the story? See pages 17-18 for ideas.
5. What will happen to the characters next? Discuss your predictions at the end of the book.
6. If your school wanted to set a world record, what would you try to do? Brainstorm a list.



Get a FREE Virtual Chat with the Author

Shelley Pearsall, M.Ed., has worked with more than a quarter-million students across the U.S. as a visiting author. If you are reading ALL OF THE ABOVE in your school, you can get a free 30-minute virtual chat with the author and a live office tour. Free visits available on Fridays only. To schedule, contact shelleyvisits@yahoo.com Need more free teaching ideas for the book? Visit: www.onebookoneday.com