

2026年

4.23 世界閱讀日

4·23 World Book Day 創作比賽 Creative Competition in 2026



香港 Hong Kong

高小組 小四 (P4) ▶ 小六 (P6) Senior Primary



Chiu Ying Chi Charmaine

Diocesan Girls' Junior School

Topic Learning New Skills with Fun

The Way Things Work Now by David Macaulay drew me in the moment I spotted it at the Hong Kong Central Library. My curiosity about how technology shapes daily life led me straight to its pages. With detailed illustrations and clear explanations, the book makes complicated ideas about machines and inventions surprisingly easy to follow. Rather than feeling like a boring textbook, it sparks curiosity and acts as a guide.

This updated encyclopedia explains the science behind countless machines, from simple tools like levers and pulleys to modern tech such as smartphones and lasers. Playful illustrations featuring mammoths make complex concepts fun and accessible for kids or adults, covering mechanics, electricity, waves, and more.

What fascinated me most was the chapter on simple machines. Ordinary as levers, pulleys, and gears may seem, they form the foundation of countless modern tools. Inspired by what I learned, I built a small pulley system at home with LEGO Technic and string. Though imperfect, it worked well enough to lift my backpack. I kept experimenting until the system could hold heavier items. That small success gave me a real sense of achievement and showed me how practice makes perfect.

The book motivated me to explore further, so I started watching engineering videos online, joined a STEM workshop at the library, and even began creating new inventions. These experiences taught me that learning isn't just about memorizing facts—it's about experimenting, sharing ideas, and applying knowledge creatively.

Of course, not everything went smoothly. Some projects failed, and it was quite frustrating at first. But I learned to be patient and to keep adjusting until things worked. That process taught me resilience and problem-solving skills, which I know will help me in the future.

Overall, *The Way Things Work Now* was more than just a book. It inspired me to think seriously about engineering as a possible career path. It showed me that learning new skills can be exciting, rewarding, and fun—and that I should never stop trying, no matter the circumstances.

Book Read Book Title : The way things work now
Author : David Macaulay with Neil Ardley
Publisher : London: Dorling Kindersley, 2016.

Comments

- Paragraphs had unity and showed evidence of planning.
- Personal experience and ideas from the book are effectively linked.



Fung Yau Long

Kwun Tong Government Primary School (Sau Ming Road)

Topic Engineering Everywhere

Last week, I spent a morning wandering through the public library near my home. There I discovered the book "Engineering in our Everyday Lives". Its opening riddle caught my eye: "What do a bridge, running shoes and a roller coaster have in common?" The answer "they were all created by engineers" sparked my curiosity and led me to read the entire book.

Many primary school students including myself know little about engineering. This book introduces its basic knowledge. What engineers do, why technologies can be both helpful and harmful, the daily works of engineers, kinds of engineers, how engineers help make the world better, etc. Now, when I go out, I will be more observant to the things around me – How are skyscrapers built? Where does drainage water go? How are submarine tunnels constructed? The knowledge is not only interesting but also very useful. Engineering really shapes our daily lives.

One of the chapters "Technology Is Always Changing" impressed me most. Using the evolution of bicycle is from the first bicycle with two wooden wheels and no pedal to today's ones with pedals to make them easier to ride, with tyres made of rubber to make riding smoother and comfortable, and with hand breaks to make them easier to stop. It shows how engineers innovate while seeking constant improvements. This taught me that learning is lifelong, and we should keep pace with the times.

The book ignited my interest in engineering. My visits to libraries and bookstore now usually start in the area of "engineering". My dad who is a civil engineer, becomes my mentor who guides me by explaining the engineering principles and applications. I sincerely recommend "Engineering in Our Everyday Lives" to you all to spark your interest in engineering. Who knows, you might become the engineers who change the world someday in the future.

Book Read Book Title : Engineering in our everyday lives
Author : Reggan Miller
Publisher : St. Catharines, Ontario, New York: Crabtree Publishing, c2014.

Comments

- Informative and interesting writing with a clear and logical structure.
- The writing demonstrated an orderly flow of ideas, and the expression was more than competent.



Ma Kwan Yin

Kiangsu and Chekiang Primary School

Topic Beyond the Mirror: My Dialogue with Leonardo da Vinci

Picasso's whimsical lines amuse me, and van Gogh's intense colors stun me. Yet, what truly warms my heart is the tender touch in Leonardo da Vinci's work. I hope to paint with the vitality that da Vinci achieved, but when assigned an animal-themed project, I found myself stuck. The repetitive drills felt lifeless, and I lingered at the gate of true artistry, unable to enter.

As familiar frustration arose, I chanced upon Stephen Krensky's Leonardo da Vinci. Turning its pages was like pushing open the door to a Renaissance workshop. The book revealed a genius who observed people in the marketplace, studied the texture of muscles and bones, and infused his art with feeling. His warning resonated deeply: "The painter who draws merely by practice and by eye, without any reason, is like a mirror which copies everything placed in front of it without being conscious of its existence."

A mirror. The word struck me. Was I not just that—a clumsy mirror, only reflecting, never understanding?

"Paint with your mind, not just your hand," I seemed to hear Leonardo's voice whisper. So, I went to Ocean Park to observe the penguins' forms; I read about their habits and their fragile world; I reached out my hand, wishing to guard their icy home. In a spark of inspiration, I was elated. This was the living art I sought! I would paint not just an animal, but the yearning—of animals and humans alike—to protect our common environment.

In the focused act of understanding and creating, time fell away, replaced by peace and joy. I was no longer a passive student, but an active explorer in dialogue with the world through my brush. This joyful engagement, this silent conversation across centuries with the master himself, revealed to me the true essence of learning with joy: it is the journey from being a mirror that reflects objects, to becoming a light that ignites emotions.

Book Read Book Title : Leonardo da Vinci
Author : Stephen Krensky; illustrated by charlotte Ager
Publisher : London: Dorling Kindersley, 2020.

Comments

- The story was well-structured, with a strong beginning, middle and end.
- Sophisticated and poetic expressions; thoughtful integration of new insights and feelings.



作品以原作展示並以獲獎者姓名排序。
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香港悅讀周 HONG KONG READING WEEK

今年香港公共圖書館再度與深圳圖書館、廣東省立中山圖書館及澳門公共圖書館合作，各自以同一主題舉辦比賽。所有得獎作品均會在指定圖書館展出，以促進大灣區讀者交流，共享閱讀與創作的樂趣。展覽詳情可參閱香港公共圖書館網頁。
This year, the Hong Kong Public Libraries continues to collaborate with the Shenzhen Library, the Sun Yat-sen Library of Guangdong Province and the Macao Public Library in organising competitions under the same theme separately. All winning entries will be displayed in selected public libraries to foster exchanges among readers of the Greater Bay Area for sharing the fun of reading and creation. Please visit the Hong Kong Public Libraries website for details of the exhibition.



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Ng Hoi Tung

Tai Kok Tsui Catholic Primary School (Hoi Fan Road)

Topic **My Drawing Adventure: 30 Days from the Library**

I love visiting the children's library in public libraries. It has so many books and is a great place to find new worlds of knowledge. Last summer holiday, I borrowed a fantastic book that taught me a wonderful lesson: learning new skills can be fun!

The book is called *You Can Draw in 30 Days: the fun, easy way to learn to draw in one month or less* by Mark Kistler. Before reading it, I thought drawing was a difficult talent that only some people have. I would get frustrated when my pictures didn't look perfect. This book changed my mind completely. The author doesn't just teach you how to draw; he teaches you how to enjoy the process. Every lesson is like a fun, 20-minute game. He calls the practice exercises "homework adventures" and uses funny, encouraging language that makes you laugh while you learn.

The most important thing I learned is that drawing starts with simple shapes that everyone can make — spheres, cubes, and cylinders. The book inspired me to start a new daily habit. Every afternoon after school, I do one fun lesson. Instead of being a chore, it's the part of my day I look forward to the most. I've learned to draw 3D houses, floating spheres, and even my own hand! Each small success makes me feel proud and excited for the next "adventure."

This experience has shown me that the key to learning anything new is to find the joy in it. Just like the library creates fun activities like storytelling to promote a love of reading, we can make our own learning fun. You don't have to be perfect at something to enjoy it. Now, I carry a small sketchbook everywhere, not because I have to, but because I want to. I am so grateful I found this book at our public library. It has given me a fun skill I will enjoy for the rest of my life, and it has taught me that the best learning happens with a grateful smile.

Book Read Book Title : *You can draw in 30 days: the fun, easy way to learn to draw in one month or less*
Author : Mark Kistler; Translated by Wendy Lien
Publisher : New Taipei City: ECUS Cultural Enterprise Limited, 2012.

Comments

- Exhibits effective writing style and clearly engages the readers.
- Creatively and engagingly written, with a clear and logical structure.



Sze Pok Tin

St. Paul's Co-educational College Primary School

Topic **Learning Life Skills through Magic**

I was in the library searching for a book to learn magic when I saw this book, "Magic your Mind Happy", written by Professor Richard Wiseman, who is a magician and a psychologist. Amazingly, this book not only teaches magic tricks, but also skills for use in everyday life to become happier, more confident and calm.

This book introduces 32 magic tricks and features 8 superpowers which are important life skills. Among these superpowers, increasing your own confidence has inspired me the most. Here, the book introduced a small but mighty magic word — yet. It is very powerful because it transforms "I can't do this!" to "I can't do this...yet!" and suggests that even though you cannot do something at the moment, you will be able to do it in the future. The "Amazing Jumping Band", which is a very challenging trick, is taught in this section. When I was learning this trick, it was not successful on the first few attempts because the rubber band flew away from my hands. I was about to give up but then I suddenly remembered the magic word which encouraged me to keep trying. After practising for a few more times, I was finally able to perform the trick in one smooth movement. I was very surprised about it. It really was magic!

The most interesting part is that a final secret message is revealed at the end of the book, which is formed from the first letter of every superpower introduced — "I AM MAGIC". This tells us that the most important thing about magic is not just about performing the tricks successfully, but is about developing the superpowers that help you grow and change. This is the real magic of magic! Overall, I think this book is very inspiring because I always thought that magic is just illusions, but this book shows me that magic can be real too! It can magically change our lives into happier, brighter ones!

Book Read Book Title : *Magic your mind happy: amazing magic tricks for happiness, confidence and calm*
Author : Richard Wiseman; illustrated by Luke Newell
Publisher : London: Wren & Rook, 2024.

Comments

- Thoughtful connection and organisation of ideas.
- Enthusiastic and engaging expressions.



Tong Yan

St. Paul's Co-educational College Primary School

Topic **Strive for the Light**

My mother always says that we should always look for the sun, especially on cloudy days. I never truly understood what she meant until I found a book at the Hong Kong Central Library: "Gardening Together with Children: Roots, Shoots, Buckets & Boots" by Sharon Lovejoy. This book taught me that planting a seed isn't just about gardening; it's a lesson in patience, resilience and hope.

Out of a variety of choices, I chose to grow sunflowers, a flower that represents positivity and happiness. I bought a packet of Russian Mammoth sunflower seeds and a 10-pound bag of aged manure as the book suggested. I set down two flower pots in our balcony, poured soil into them and planted the seeds about 2 centimeters deep. I noticed that a pot was placed in the shade and a thought popped up in my mind. Sunflowers were said to be always facing the sun. If I put it in the shade, what would happen to it? Would it stay true and loyal to the sun and somehow find a way to follow it, or give up and stay in the dark forever?

For the first few days, nothing happened, but after a few days of watering and fertilizing, a tiny green loop pushed strongly through the soil in the first pot. However, the tiny sprout in the shade I've been yearning for didn't come out until a few days later. The seedling in the shade did a thing I never expected - it grew at an angle, stretching itself determinedly to find its beloved sun. After a long process, it finally found a patch of sunlight and basked in the warm rays in triumph.

Growing sunflowers didn't only teach me the skills of gardening; it taught me the power of patience, resilience and hope. Like my sunflower in the shade, we sometimes face challenges that seemed impossible to overcome, but we must remain resilient and stretch ourselves to find our own light. This experience engraved itself in my memory, proving that the best skills are those that teach you about life itself.

Book Read Book Title : *Roots, shoots, buckets & boots: gardening together with children*
Author : Sharon Lovejoy
Publisher : New York: Workman Publishing, c1999.

Comments

- The style was energetic and precise, and the sentence structure was varied.
- Vivid descriptions with coherent and cohesive structure.



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Tsang Hoi Yau Andrea

St. Stephen's Girls' Primary School

**Topic My Superpower in Ten Minutes:
Learning to Manage Anxiety**

What can you truly accomplish in ten minutes? You could make a cup of hot chocolate or listen to a few songs. For me ten minutes became the key to learning my most valuable skill this year how to manage anxiety. The book that taught me this superpower is *10 Minutes to Better Mental Health: A Step-by-Step Guide for Teens Using CBT and Mindfulness* by Lee David.

The theme, "Learning New Skill with Fun" celebrates the joy of discovery. While others might learn to draw or code. I learnt to conquer my worries. Before reading this book, even a small challenge—a math test or a class presentation—felt like a giant wall blocking my way. My heart would race and all the fun would disappear. Then I discovered tools from Lee David's book that help me calm down almost instantly.

I vividly remember putting these tools into reality while waiting for my turn in a verse speaking competition last week. My palms started sweating. Instead of giving in to a panic. I remembered the "5-4-3-2-1" technique from the book. I quickly identified five colours around me, noticed four textures of my school uniform, listened for three distinct sounds from the audience, took two gentle sniffs of the dust backstage air, and tested a hint of my sweet strawberry lip balm. Suddenly, I was right in the moment, not lost in worries. Thanks to this superpower, I stepped on stage feeling brave and spoke clearly, turning stress into joy of performance. This book really gave me the secret to "Learning New Skills with Fun".

By following the clear steps in this book. I have learnt to face challenges with a calm and positive mindset. If you ever find yourself in a stressful situation like I did, this book could change everything for you, just as it did for me. I wholeheartedly recommend this book to you. Give it ten minutes, and you too might discover a calmer and happier self, ready to embrace the fun of learning.

Book Read Book Title : 10 minutes to better mental health: a step-by-step guide for teens using CBT and mindfulness
Author : David Lee and Debbie Brewin, illustrated by Rebecca Price
Publisher : London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2022.

Comments

- It had fluent expression, with logical sequencing.
- Ideas were insightful and thought-provoking.



Wong Wing Sum

**Yuen Long Public Middle School
Alumni Association Primary School**

Topic Fold to Grow

The Hong Kong Public Library has always been, to me, a sanctuary of silence—a place meant for studying, not discovery. That belief changed last month as I wandered between the shelves and noticed a sign that read "Newest Books." Nestled among them was a blue-and-yellow cover that caught my attention: *Origami Design Secrets: Mathematical Methods for an Ancient Art* by Robert J. Lang.

Robert J. Lang is a masterclass in patience and geometry. Before reading it, I assumed origami was just about following instructions: fold here, crease there. However, the author's playful tone turned it into a game of logic. The book broke down complex creatures, like dragons and frogs, into manageable steps. It taught me to view failure not as a mistake, but as a "misfold" that was part of the process.

Inspired by the book's colorful diagrams and encouraging notes, I set a challenge to learn a new model every day. The "fun" came from the tactile sensation of the paper and the instant gratification of seeing a flat square transform into a 3D object. I remember struggling with a particular "Flapping Bird" for an hour. My paper was crumpled, and my frustration was high. But I flipped back to the book's troubleshooting section, tried a different angle, and suddenly—*snap*—the wings folded perfectly. The burst of dopamine I felt was better than winning any video game.

Borrowing this book from the public library sparked a hobby that I now turn to whenever I feel stressed. It taught me that learning a new skill isn't about drills and repetition; it's about finding the joy in the "try." This World Book Day, I am grateful that our libraries are filled with not just stories, but tools that help us build new skills and, quite literally, fold our own happiness.

Book Read Book Title : Origami design secrets: mathematical methods for an ancient art
Author : Robert J. Lang
Publisher : Natick, MA: A K Peters, c2003.

Comments

- Organisation was coherent. Easy to read.
- Smooth and clear flow of ideas with creative expressions.



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