Need a House? Call Ms. Mouse

Author: George Mendoza, Doris Susan Smith (Ages 4-8)

Every animal in the forest can have a home they love with the help of Ms. Mouse in this whimsical and educational book about design and architecture.

Henrietta is a world-famous architect, and the only mouse in the world who knows what makes a squirrel or a rabbit, a caterpillar or a frog feel at home. A dreamer, a designer, an artist, and a creator, Henrietta works at her drawing board to imagine the perfect home for each of her friends, be they woodland, water, subterranean or winged creatures.

Mara Helena, Ridgewood Elementary

“My favorite childhood book has been reissued: Need A House? Call Ms. Mouse. I used it to demonstrate 3d cross sections. The 1st graders then drew their own house cross sections. They were incredibly inventive and creative.”
Need a way to use up those extra art supplies???

**Popsicle Sticks**

Popsicle sticks can be glued together using either craft glue or hot glue in advance, making one for each student. The premade “flags” can be made in three different sizes; small, medium, and larger. Depending on the length of the available sticks.

Using red, white, and blue acrylic paint have students paint a flag inspired by Jasper Johns’ *Three Flags*.

In 1954, Jasper Johns began painting what would become one of his signature emblems: the American flag. As an iconic image--comparable to the targets, maps, and letters that he also has depicted--Johns realized that the flag was “seen and not looked at, not examined.” The execution and composition of Three Flags elicit close inspection by the viewer. Johns explores the boundary between abstraction and representation. As he remarked, this painting allowed him to “go beyond the limits of the flag, and to have different canvas space.”