

## Core Skills Analysis

### Literacy and Social-Emotional Learning

- Developed reading fluency and confidence by reading aloud to a non-judgmental listener, the therapy dog.
- Practiced patience and waiting skills by waiting for 30 minutes until called; this enhances self-regulation.
- Gained comfort with public or social reading settings, indirectly boosting oral communication skills.
- Engaged with narrative content in the chosen book, which can enhance vocabulary and comprehension.

### STEM and Spatial Reasoning

- Built spatial reasoning and fine motor skills through manipulating magnet blocks.
- Explored concepts of magnetism and structural balance in a hands-on way.
- Encouraged creativity and problem-solving during the 25-minute building session.
- Practiced focus and extended concentration while constructing with magnet blocks.

### Digital Literacy and Strategy

- Enhanced digital navigation and hand-eye coordination through playing Minecraft.
- Developed strategic thinking and planning when interacting with the Minecraft game environment.
- Fostered creativity by building and experimenting within a virtual sandbox world.
- Learned time management by balancing screen time after other activities.

### Tips

To deepen the literacy experience, encourage the student to write a short review or summary of the book they read aloud, helping to solidify comprehension and expressive writing skills. For STEM development, challenge them to design and build a specific structure with the magnet blocks, perhaps inspired by something from the book or Minecraft world, fostering cross-disciplinary creativity. Introduce simple experiments with magnets to explore magnetic forces, enhancing scientific inquiry. For digital skills, guide the student to plan their Minecraft builds on paper beforehand, reinforcing planning, geometry, and sequencing skills.

### Book Recommendations

- [Dog Man: Fetch-22](#) by Dav Pilkey: A graphic novel that combines humor and adventure, appealing to young readers who enjoy animals and imaginative stories.
- [The Magic School Bus: Mighty Magnet](#) by Joanna Cole: A fun exploration of magnetism concepts, perfect for children curious about science and building.
- [Minecraft: The Official Beginner's Handbook](#) by Megan Miller: A guidebook introducing Minecraft gameplay mechanics, building tips, and strategies for young players.

### Learning Standards

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.5.4 - Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.5.1 - Engage effectively in collaborative discussions and oral presentations.
- CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.5.G.A.1 - Understand concepts of volume and spatial reasoning using building blocks.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.5.3 - Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences.

- ISTE Standards for Students 1.6 - Creative Communicator: Students communicate clearly and express themselves creatively using digital tools.

### **Try This Next**

- Create a worksheet prompting the student to list three new words learned from the book and use each in a sentence.
- Design a magnet block challenge with a prompt to build a bridge or tower that can hold a small object.
- Develop a quiz with multiple-choice questions about magnetic forces and properties featured in the building activity.
- Write a Minecraft adventure story integrating elements from the book or magnet block creations.