

## What a Great Experience!

### Common Core Standards – Listening and Speaking

- Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (SL.CCR.4)
- Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and communicative tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate. (SL.CCR.6)

### Common Core Standards – Language

- Use verb tense to convey various times, sequences, states, and conditions. (L.5.1.c)
- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking. (L.CCR.1)

### Setting the scene

Before this activity begins, you will need to have walked students through MINILAND® and pointed out various buildings. Have students tell you some of the activities that take place at the different sites. This must happen before they come into the education room.

Ask some of the following questions:

- What buildings did you see in Miniland?
- How many of those places have you visited?
- What did you do there?
- Who were you with?
- Did you enjoy it?
- Do you have any stories to share?

Tell students that they will be working in small groups. Put them in groups of three students per set.

### Building the story

Tell them that each person will be creating a story by building a model on one or two baseplates to show something he or she has done in the city.

Ask the students to take 10-15 minutes using only the materials in their group's bin to build a story that represents their experience.

- What were the highlights?
- Who were you with?
- What was the setting, and what happened?
- Would you like to do that again?

### Reflecting

Have the students reflect and talk about the activity that is shown in the model. What are they doing? What are they saying? How do they feel? Have the students demonstrate how their models help them express their ideas.

Grades: 2-5




**Tip:** Tell students that they can use bricks to build a model of any item not in the set.

For example, students could build a lion, a giraffe, or an airplane if that is what is needed in their story.

## Sharing and documenting

Have students share their stories within their group or with other groups.

 **Tip:** When they have finished sharing, have the students put pieces from their models back into the bin in the correct locations.



Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## StoryStarter

**What a Great Experience!**

MINILAND®

Who are your characters?

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What is the setting?

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When does the story take place?

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Write 3-5 details about the plot of your story.

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