

CRASH! BOOM!

A MATH TALE



Robie H. Harris illustrated by Chris Chatterton

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Elephant has a bucket of blocks and wants to build something tall. Something as tall as Elephant. But will it stay up?

Use *CRASH! BOOM!* in your classroom to introduce the concepts of shapes and equivalencies, encourage experimenting as a means for learning, and build the skills of prediction, balance and stability, measurement, counting, and doubling.



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■ There are many blocks in this story. Ask students, “Are all the blocks the same, or are they different? Are some shorter? Are some longer? How do you know?”

■ Read and show students the “It’s as tall as me!” page. Ask, “What do you think will happen next?” Turn the page and ask, “Why do you think the tower fell down?”

■ Read and show students the “WHOOPEE! I did it!” page. Ask, “Why do you think this tower is not wobbly? Why is it still standing up?”

■ Read and show students the “Still not as tall as ME” page. Ask, “How does Elephant know the tower still isn’t tall enough? How does Elephant figure out how many more blocks will make it tall enough?”

■ Show students the “TA-DAH!” page. Say, “Let’s count together how many blocks are in each row.” Ask, “What happens when the number of blocks in the rows goes from one block to two blocks to four blocks to eight blocks?”

■ Provide wooden blocks in your classroom and have students experiment by creating their own towers or building different block structures altogether using the same three block sizes in the story.

