



Welcome to Our Event Kit!

These materials were developed as part of the educational outreach for the Emmy® Award-winning public television series, *Peep and the Big Wide World*. Funded by the National Science Foundation, the goal of the series and its outreach is to nurture young children's interest in science play and discovery.

Peep and the Big Wide World celebrates children's curiosity and encourages behaviors that come to them naturally—asking questions, exploring the world around them, and testing ideas through play. This “science play” is at the heart of the events outlined here.

In these PDFs, you will find all the resources needed to organize, promote, and run three different hour-long events: **Exploring Shadows, Exploring Structures, and Exploring Ramps**. Each Event Leader's Guide offers an agenda with detailed descriptions of hands-on activities through which children can explore various aspects of the science topic.

Begin each event by watching the 9-minute animated story in which Peep and his friends investigate shadows, structures, or ramps. This story is followed by a 2-minute live-action video showing real kids exploring the same themes. (The streaming video is provided on the Event Kit web page.) The children at your event, inspired by the PEEP screening, will be eager to make their own hands-on discoveries. Distribute the provided handout sheets to encourage families to continue experimenting at home.

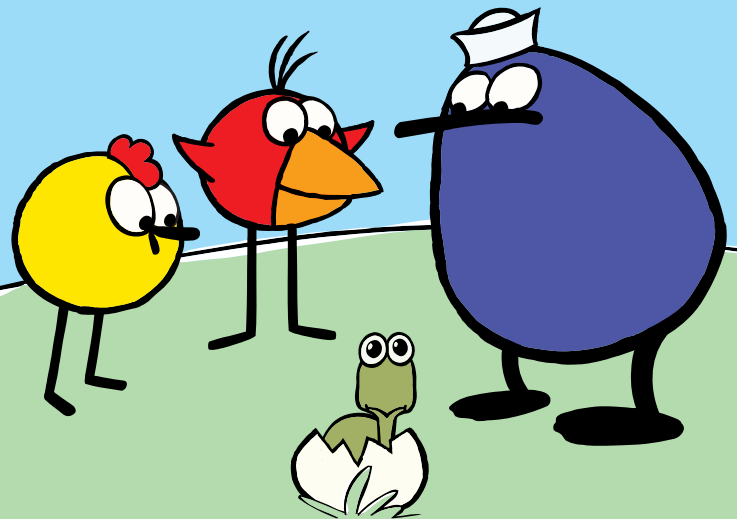
All the materials for your event are available as downloadable PDF files. If you find you'd like to create additional resources using PEEP creative assets, please contact us for a free DVD—provided upon request—with a range of options from logos to t-shirt transfers and character images to fonts, and accompanied by guidelines for use.

There also are Peep, Chirp, and Quack character “walk-about” costumes you can rent for your event. The costumes require a volunteer to wear the outfit and another volunteer to escort the character and interact with children. Rental information is available from Costume Specialists Inc., 211 N. 5th Street, Columbus, OH 43215 Ph: 800-596-9357 or Email: CSR@cospec.com

Best of luck!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Gay Mohrbacher'.

Gay Mohrbacher
Senior Project Manager
WGBH Educational Foundation



PEEP and the Big Wide World™

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Exploring Shadows

- **Event Leader's Guide:** Exploring Shadows
- **Customizable Flier:** Explore Shadows! (English and Spanish)
- **Activity Station Signs** (English and Spanish)
- **Activity Handout:** Shadow Puppets (English and Spanish)
- **Family Handout:** Explore Shadows with Your Child (English and Spanish)

Exploring Structures

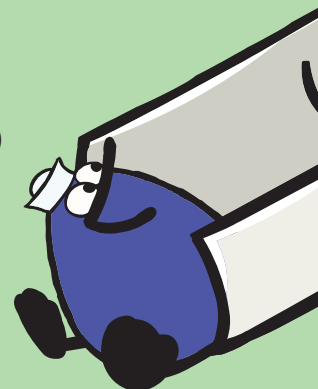
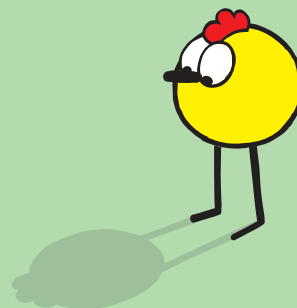
- **Event Leader's Guide:** Exploring Structures
- **Customizable Flier:** Explore Structures! (English and Spanish)
- **Activity Station Signs** (English and Spanish)
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Exploring Ramps

- **Event Leader's Guide:** Exploring Ramps
- **Customizable Flier:** Explore Ramps! (English and Spanish)
- **Activity Station Signs** (English and Spanish)
- **Family Handout:** Explore Ramps with Your Child (English and Spanish)

Additional Resources

- **Generic Flier:** To promote other PEEP events you develop (English and Spanish)
- **Generic Activity Station Sign:** Additional sign that can be customized per activity (English and Spanish)
- **Family Handouts**
 - ▶ *Peep and the Big Wide World* Series Information (English and Spanish)
 - ▶ Exploring Science with Kids (English and Spanish)
 - ▶ PEEP Games and Apps: Where to find free PEEP games
- **Poster Instructions**
 - ▶ **Poster:** 8.5 x 11 inches (English and Spanish)
 - ▶ **Poster:** 17 x 22 inches (English and Spanish)
- **Press Release:** Sample PEEP event announcement
- **Event Evaluation Form:** For parents and caregivers (English and Spanish)





How to Use This Kit

Peep and the Big Wide World science events offer children the opportunity to explore and learn through play. You don't need to be a science expert to run a successful event! As a facilitator, your role is to introduce interesting, open-ended materials and then provide time for children to investigate and talk about what they notice and discover.

Plan the Event

Set a date. Choose a good time for children ages 3–5 and their parents and/or caregivers. We recommend scheduling 45 minutes to an hour for the event.

Choose a topic. Read the Event Leader's Guide for each of the three event topics, then try out the activities yourself. Your first-hand experience with the materials will help you visualize how the children might use them and the type of discoveries they might make. Consider the following:

- Where is the best place to set up these activities?
- How might you want to adapt the materials for the activities?
- What sort of connections can you make to related resources in your museum, library, and/or community?

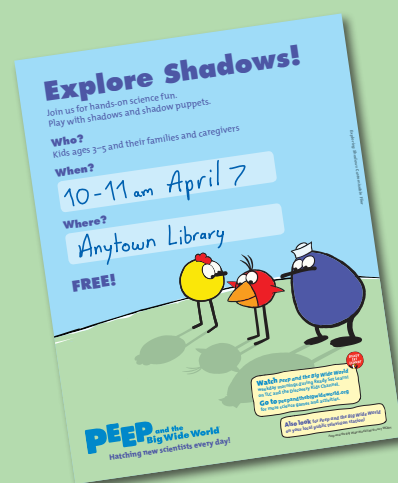
Preview the PEEP episode provided for each event topic. You have permission to screen these videos at your event. Be sure to reserve the equipment (computer or projector, screen, speakers) needed to show the episode.

Enlist volunteers. Ideally, each activity station should have one volunteer for every four children. With proper preparation, high school students can be excellent volunteers.

Publicize your event. Use the customizable flier included in this Kit (in both English and Spanish) that contain space to add your logo. Add your event logistics by hand (see sample on this page). Display the flier (or your own sign) with the *Peep and the Big Wide World* poster (PDF provided). You may also want to send an announcement to local organizations. A sample press release is provided in the “Additional Resources.”

Pre-register children. For the best learning experience, we encourage you to set a limit on the number of children, based on your space and resources.

Collect materials. All activity materials suggested are readily available, but give yourself plenty of time to gather them!



Copy handouts. Preview and copy the related Family Handouts and the Event Evaluation Form provided (in English and Spanish).

Plan a snack. If possible, provide a snack as part of your Wrap Up. As children eat, you can invite them to share things they have learned at the event. Adults will have time to fill out Event Evaluation forms and browse through display materials.

Day of the Event

Prepare your space. Create a clearly defined area for each activity. Provide sufficient work space and materials for the anticipated number of participants. Set out activity station signage provided, which offers prompts to visitors.

Create a display. Gather theme-related books and other materials.

Orient your volunteers. Explain the goal of the PEEP event activities: to encourage science play and discovery. Then allow plenty of time for the volunteers to try out the materials. Model good ways to interact with the children and keep the explorations going. A good rule of thumb is to watch, listen, and ask open-ended questions (the Event Leader's Guide provides some examples), but to keep your hands behind your back, allowing the children to control the materials themselves.

Evaluate the Event

Distribute the Event Evaluation Form to parents and caregivers. Later, set aside time with your colleagues to reflect on the successes and challenges of the event.

- Which activities held the children's interest? What discoveries did they make? What questions did you ask that seemed most useful?
- What comments did you hear from parents or caregivers?
- Was the amount of time appropriate? Which activities would you simplify next time? Which would you extend? How? What else might you change?

The Educational Outreach team for *Peep and the Big Wide World* would very much like to hear your comments! Please send your feedback to: gay_mohrbacher@wgbh.org. We would also enjoy receiving copies of your Event Evaluation Forms. Please mail or fax them to:

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