

Meet the creators of **A Fort on the Moon**



Meet author **MAGGIE POUNCEY!**



Maggie Pouncey is the author of the novel *Perfect Reader*, and of the picture book *A Fort on the Moon*—a story inspired by her own children. She is also the co-founder of Stories Bookshop + Storytelling Lab. She lives in Brooklyn, New York, with her husband and two young sons.

Maggie got the idea for *A Fort on the Moon* from watching her boys play and build worlds together. They seemed to speak a secret language she couldn't quite understand which got her to thinking, what if their imaginary adventures weren't so imaginary after all?!

Her favorite book from childhood is *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White, a story about a good writer and a good friend. Maggie aspires to be both!

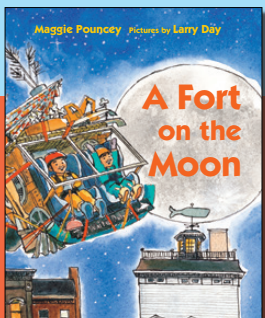
Meet illustrator **LARRY DAY!**



Larry Day is the award-winning illustrator of over 25 fiction and non-fiction titles. Most recent titles: *A Fort on the Moon* (Maggie Pouncey), *Beware!* (Bob Raschka), *Found*, (Jeff Newman), *Voices from the Underground Railroad* (Kay Winters), *My Fourth of July* (Jerry Spinelli), and *Bim Bam Bop and Oona* (Jacqueline Briggs Martin). Larry's work has won numerous state awards, a Golden Kite Award, and three gold medals from the Society of Illustrators.

"I grew up in a small rural midwestern town where, beginning at an early age, I drew everything around me. And what I didn't draw, I observed. Art became even more meaningful to me after I flunked high school art class. I knew I was onto something bigger than learning macrame and decoupage. I was searching for the emotion of things. And I've been at it ever since."

Larry spent his childhood in Gibson City, Illinois, a rural farming community. Despite flunking Art in high school, he earned an Associate's Degree in commercial art. Before becoming a picture book illustrator, Larry illustrated pinball and video arcade games. He's a 33-year senior storyboard artist in the advertising industry. Larry's principal love is painting.



A Fort on the Moon
by Maggie Pouncey
pictures by Larry Day
ISBN: 9780823446575

Illustration © 2020 by Larry Day

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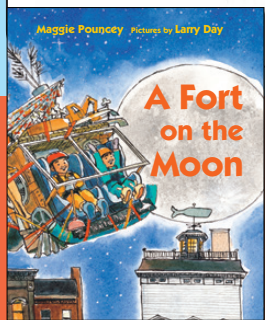
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Create your own Fort on the Moon

Choose objects, cut them out, and color them in to create whatever you can imagine!
Objects can be placed on the surface of the moon sheet or on your own paper.



*Always use scissors with an adult's supervision.



A Fort on the Moon

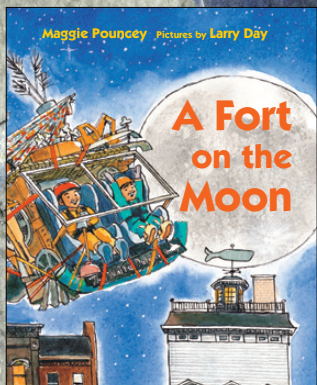
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How to build a Fort on the Moon!

(or anywhere you want a fort)



1. Make a model!

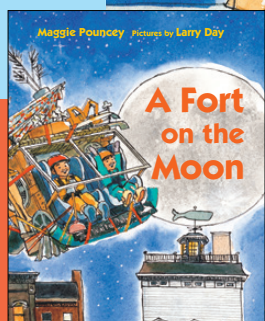
Try out your design ideas using blocks or play dough or even cardboard you have at home.

2. Find your tools!

Look for ribbons, tape, diggers, or anything that will help with the building.

3. Gather materials for your fort!

Look around your home for items that would make a good fort, maybe an umbrella, your old baby blanket, a hockey stick, or boxes.



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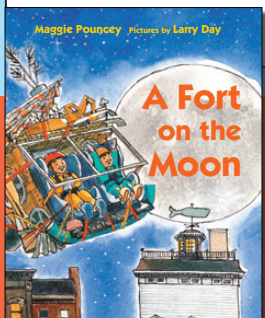
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Explorers need a ship to go explore!

Use the space below to draw a ship that would take you to the moon, or on any exploration you choose.



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Do you and your friends like to tell stories?

If you do, author Maggie Pouncey has some fun ideas to get you started!



Make a Spaceship

Look around your home. What surprising odds and ends could you use to make a spaceship like *The White Dolphin*, or your own fort on the moon?

- A broken umbrella?
- A whisk?
- A ball of yarn?
- A toy train?
- Your old baby blanket?

Make a list of objects below. A list can be a poem, and a poem can be a list! Write two list poems below:

*I'll make my spaceship out of:

*I'll build my Fort on the Moon with:

Take a Wild Adventure!

Fox and Dodge Wilder have the wildest adventures together!

What wild adventures would you like to go on with a sibling or best friend by your side?

Where would you go?

Why?

How would you get there?

How long would it take?

What challenges would you face?

Using the ideas from the questions above, tell your story in the space below or on a separate piece of paper. If you need help, you can ask a grownup to write down your ideas. You can also draw a picture to accompany your story!

A Moon Story

There are many wonderful picture books about the moon, from *Goodnight Moon* to *Moonshot*, and the moon is an important part of *A Fort on the Moon*.

Tell your own story about the moon!

Draw or paint a picture of the moon and the night sky to illustrate your story, too.

Lots of Knots

In the book, Fox and Dodge use special knots to secure themselves and *The White Dolphin* on the moon—a Sailor's Fist and a Mighty Mermaid. These are not real knots: Maggie made them up for the story!

Can you make up cool names for knots of your own?

What could these knots be used for?

What will they hold in place?

Could they tie a dragon to a cloud?

Or a rainbow to a school?

Make up as many names and knots as you can!

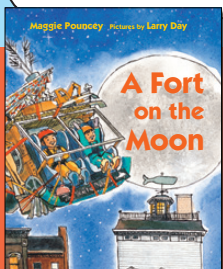
Bonus Question!

Fox and Dodge bring home a secret souvenir from their journey! It's not mentioned in the words, but Larry hid it in the illustrations. You can find it in the final pages of the book.

Can you spot it?

What is it?

Draw your own moon souvenir!



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