

The Floating Field: How a Group of Thai Boys Built Their Own Soccer Field

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Illustrated By: Nguyen Quang and Kim Lien

Synopsis: "On a tiny Thai island without room for a soccer field, a group of resourceful teen boys gathers scraps and works together to build a floating field so they can play the game they love"-- by publisher.

Suggested Reading Date: December 5 - National Day of Thailand; December 10 – International Football Day

Activity Descriptions:

- **How big is a soccer field?** Compare the sizes of fields/courts of various sports: football, soccer, rugby, lacrosse, hockey, basketball, etc.
- **Supply List:** Brainstorm and create a list of supplies that the boys needed to make the field. Extend by trying to determine how much of each item would be needed. (STEM activity). Further extend by building a floating model of the field.
- **Support your home team!** Make posters of support for local sports teams (maybe the local HS or teams the student's play on).

Related Websites:

- Video of Illustrators talking about the process of illustrating the book: <https://youtu.be/JLyX43Tg05w> (not in English, uses sub titles)
- Video of Koh Panyee Village: https://youtu.be/J5_bKc2O-is (2:35)
- TMB Panyee FC Short Film: <https://youtu.be/jU4oA3kkAWU> (5:14) (basically, shows the entire story as a short movie – not in English, uses subtitles)
- Sports Dimensions Guide (Australia): <https://www.dlgsc.wa.gov.au/sport-and-recreation/sports-dimensions-guide>

Text to Text Connections:

Above the Rim by Jen Bryant

Hoop Genius by John Coy

Boy Who Harnessed the Wind by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer

Mudball by Matt Travers

Created By: Dave Sonnen