

DEAR EDUCATOR,

Welcome to Blunderburg where there's no problem that Chico Bon Bon and his team of engineers—the Fix-It Force—can't solve. **Chico Bon Bon: Monkey With A Tool Belt** is a new preschool action-comedy series now streaming on Netflix that is packed with over-the-top engineering adventures. In each episode, with the help of his trusty tool belt, Chico and his friends save the day.

This free program from Silvergate Media and the curriculum specialists at Young Minds Inspired (YMI) includes STEM-focused activities that encourage kids to build on the show's theme of exploring, creating, and making improvements to solve problems—while having fun! These engaging lessons inspire kids to solve problems creatively through trial and error and learn from their mistakes, just like the Fix-It Force does. Along the way, they will learn science skills and STEM vocabulary.

Feel free to share this program with other teachers and families in your school. Although these materials are protected by copyright, you may make as many copies as you need for educational purposes.

Please comment online by visiting ymiclassroom.com/feedback-chicobonbon to let us know your thoughts on this program.

Sincerely,



Dr. Dominic Kinsley
Editor in Chief
Young Minds Inspired

For questions, contact us toll-free at 1-800-859-8005 or by email at feedback@ymiclassroom.com.

ABOUT THE SERIES

Chico Bon Bon: Monkey With A Tool Belt is a preschool action-comedy series about a team of engineers who solve problems in the mechanically challenged city of Blunderburg. From the mundane to the insane, there is NO problem that the Fix-It Force can't solve! This tight-knit crew, including Chico Bon Bon (monkey), Rainbow Thunder (cat), Clark (elephant), and Tiny (mouse), lives together in a tree house/laboratory. Using different skills and specialized gear, the Fix-It Force explores, creates, and makes improvements to solve problems.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Pre-K – Grade 1

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Support STEM skills with engaging characters and a mix of humor
- Inspire innovative problem-solving skills
- Encourage kids to experiment with different ideas, learn from failure, and persevere



HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM

Make copies of the two activity sheets to distribute to students and the family letter to send home. Visit ymiclassroom.com/chicobonbon for a standards alignment chart.

ACTIVITY 1 COOL TOOLS

Concepts: sorting, classifying, problem solving, identifying tools

The residents of Blunderburg are constantly at odds with the mechanical world. Thanks to his trusty tool belt, Chico Bon Bon—the enthusiastic leader of the Fix-It Force—and his team are always ready to jump into action and help. Explain that tools help someone do a job. Ask kids: *What are some tools that you know? What tools might the Fix-It Force use to build things and solve problems?*

In this activity, students hone their critical thinking skills by differentiating between tools and non-tools. They identify tools that belong on Chico's tool belt and color them. Hand out the activity and read the directions to students. When they are done, review the correct answers (hammer, tape measure, wrench, and screwdriver) and discuss

how these tools are used. In the next part, encourage kids to design their own tools. They can write a sentence about it with your help if necessary.

Extension: Challenge kids to create their own over-the-top tool belt like Chico's with materials like construction paper, felt, string, tape, paper towel rolls, etc. Spark their imaginations: *Is your tool belt thin or wide? How will you attach it? Will it have a pocket?*

ACTIVITY 2 PULLEY POWER

Concepts: understanding pulleys, problem solving

In the episode, *Chico Bon Bon and the Musical Meltdown*, Elkin John has a concert at the top of Blunderburg Tower, but faces a big problem. His piano doesn't fit in the elevator! The Fix-It Force is called to save the day. Chico Bon Bon and his team try different approaches when solving a problem. They don't always succeed the first time and have to rethink their plans. Ask kids: *Why is it important to learn from our mistakes?*

The Fix-It Force discovers that a pulley is the best solution to get the piano to the tower roof. Explain that a pulley is a simple machine that helps lift things up, down, or across using a rope or chain around a wheel. Point out examples of pulleys that help us like tow trucks, cranes, and elevators.

Have kids circle the pulleys on the activity sheet. Review the answers together (flagpole, window blind, fishing pole). Talk about how those pulleys work and help us. In the second section, point out that good ideas can come from anywhere. The Fix-It Force got the idea to use a pulley from a birthday party piñata. On a separate sheet, have students draw a picture of a pulley solving a problem they brainstorm.

Extension: Invite kids to build a pulley to bring Tiny, Chico's right-hand mouse, a piece of cheese. They might use a binder clip, paper clip, string, and paper cup. (To make the pulley, attach the binder clip to the paper cup. Then, tie the string to the binder clip and run it through the paper clip.) Kids can test their invention on small objects and hypothesize about its strength.

RESOURCES

- <http://chicobonbonseries.com>
- www.ymiclassroom.com/chicobonbon
- www.facebook.com/chicobonbonofficial
- www.netflix.com

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ACTIVITY
1

Reproducible Master

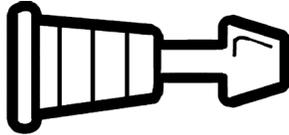


COOL TOOLS

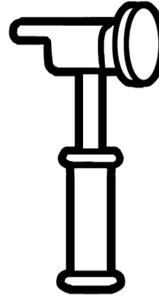
Chico Bon Bon and his Fix-It Force friends are always ready to solve problems. They use all kinds of tools. Color the pictures of tools. Put an X on items that are not tools.



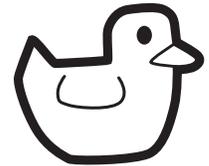
TAPE MEASURE



SCREWDRIVER



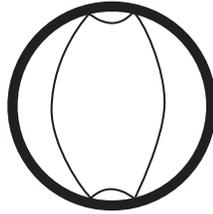
HAMMER



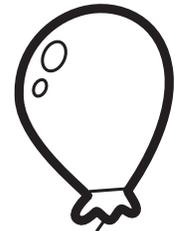
RUBBER DUCKIE



WRENCH



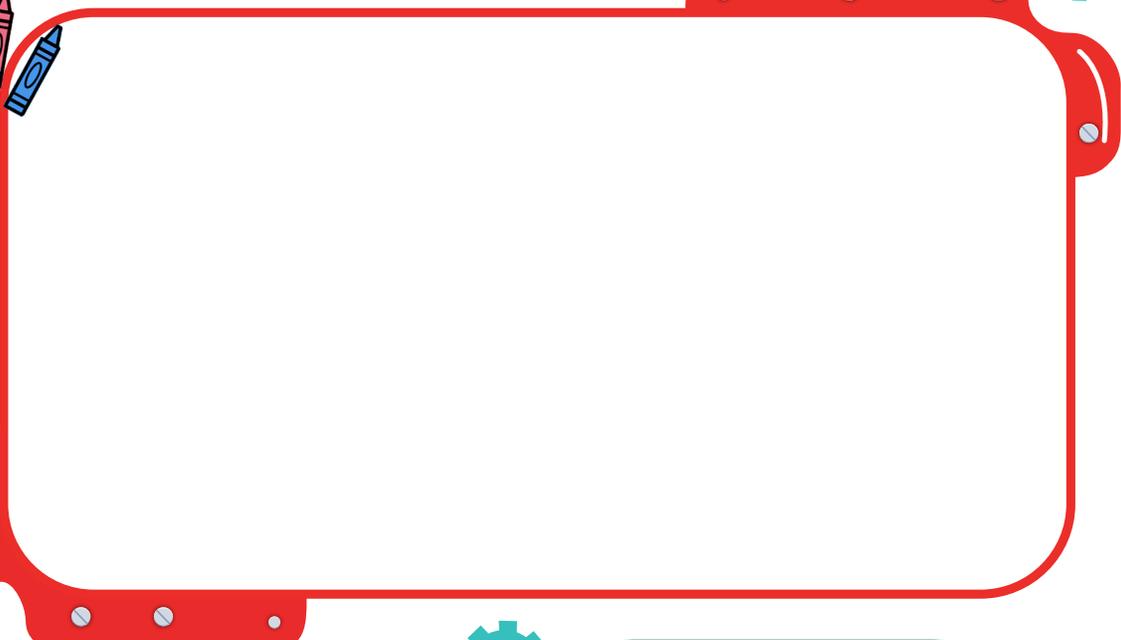
BEACH BALL



BALLOON

GEAR UP AND GO!

Invent your own tool. Draw a picture of it.



PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS:

Talk about tools your family uses and how they help solve problems. As a family, watch Chico Bon Bon and the Fix-It Force use their tools, engineering smarts, and teamwork to solve all kinds of problems in Blunderburg!



CHICO BON BON
MONKEY WITH A TOOL BELT

NETFLIX

Q: WHICH SEA CREATURE ALWAYS CARRIES A TOOL?

A: A HAMMERHEAD SHARK!



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ACTIVITY
2

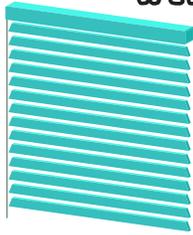
PULLEY POWER

Reproducible Master

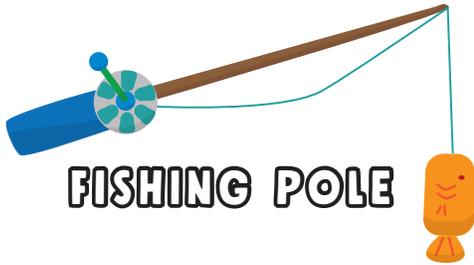
Elkin John is giving a concert at the top of Blunderburg Tower. Chico Bon Bon and the Fix-It Force build a pulley to get his piano up there. A pulley helps lift things. Circle some other pulleys below.



GLITTER CYCLE



WINDOW
BLIND



FISHING POLE



ROCKET
SKATEBOARD



FLAGPOLE

THINK BIG!

How might you use a pulley to help around your home or in your town?



PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS:

Inspire your child to explore, create, and make improvements to designs they create with building blocks, paper cups, paper towel rolls, old magazines, etc. As a family, watch Chico Bon Bon and the Fix-It Force use their tools, engineering smarts, and teamwork to solve all kinds of problems in Blunderburg.



Q: WHAT IS CHICO'S FAVORITE TOOL?

A: HIS MONKEY WRENCH!



DEAR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS,

"Time to bring the awesome!" That's Chico Bon Bon's confident catchphrase as he and his team of engineers solve problems creatively in the mechanically challenged city of Blunderburg.

In school, your child met the Fix-It Force from **Chico Bon Bon: Monkey With A Tool Belt**, a

new preschool action-comedy series now streaming on Netflix. From the mundane to the insane, there is NO problem Chico Bon Bon and his team of engineers can't solve!



In every episode, the Fix-It Force takes kids on an action-packed engineering adventure. Along the way, kids join in as Chico and his friends solve problems creatively, try different approaches, and learn from their mistakes. The series reinforces inventiveness, positivity, and collaboration, and features real STEM facts to support children's learning.

BE AN ENGINEER EXTRAORDINAIRE!

You can extend the learning fun at home. After viewing each episode, focus on the Fix-It Force's process of "Explore, Create, Improve" as they try different ways to solve a problem. Ask your child these questions:

- What problem did Chico Bon Bon and the Fix-It Force have to solve?
- What solutions did they design and test?
- How did the Fix-It Force fine-tune their idea to make it even better?



HANDS-ON FUN

In each episode, Chico and friends learn from trial and error. Inspire your child to "gear up and go" like the Fix-It Force with these STEM-focused activities.

- Create a bridge using only paper and books (or blocks) to hold the weight of ten pennies. (One way is to fold the paper up on both sides.) Then give your child a variety of materials like cups, Popsicle sticks, and blocks to see what other kinds of bridges or structures they can make.
- Explore how magnets work. Give your child different objects and predict which ones are magnetic. Children can then test their predictions. Supervise your child and remind them to always ask for help from an adult when using magnets.
- Repurpose everyday objects to build things. Give kids dry spaghetti and marshmallows to see what shapes they can construct. Or collect a variety of materials like an empty tissue box, markers, and string to build a bird feeder or anything else they dream up.



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WATCH CHICO BON BON AND THE FIX-IT FORCE USE THEIR TOOLS, ENGINEERING SMARTS, AND TEAMWORK TO SOLVE ALL KINDS OF PROBLEMS IN BLUNDERBURG!



CHICO
BON BON

MONKEY WITH A TOOL BELT

NETFLIX