



THE
GIANT
ROOM

Rat Boy Genius and a Peculiar Pasta Mystery

GIANT Storybook
In Collaboration with Bautista

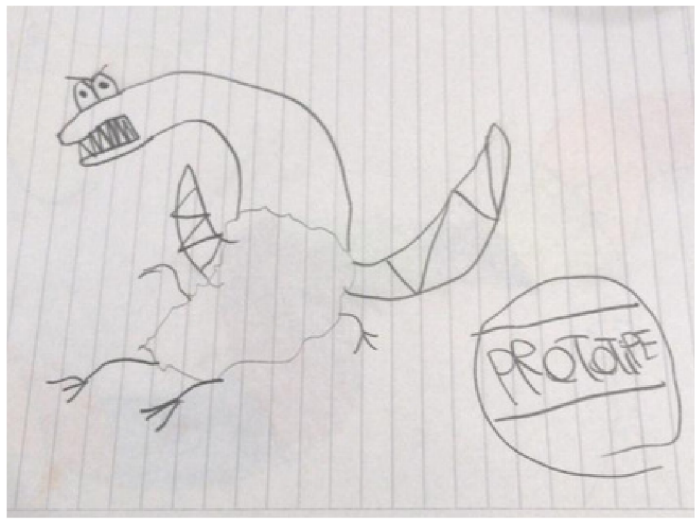




Rat Boy Genius and a Peculiar Pasta Mystery

A storybook written by The GIANT Room
in collaboration with Bautista

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We invited Bautista and his family to participate in GIANT Creative Bootcamp, a program designed to boost creativity, ideation, and design thinking skills! For one week, we sent Bautista daily videos with a creative challenge, prompting him to build and make with materials he already had at home.

Bautista submitted photos of these projects to us, and we mixed and remixed them to create this storybook. The characters, inventions, settings, and foods that Bautista created appear throughout the story, forming a unique narrative based on his submissions.



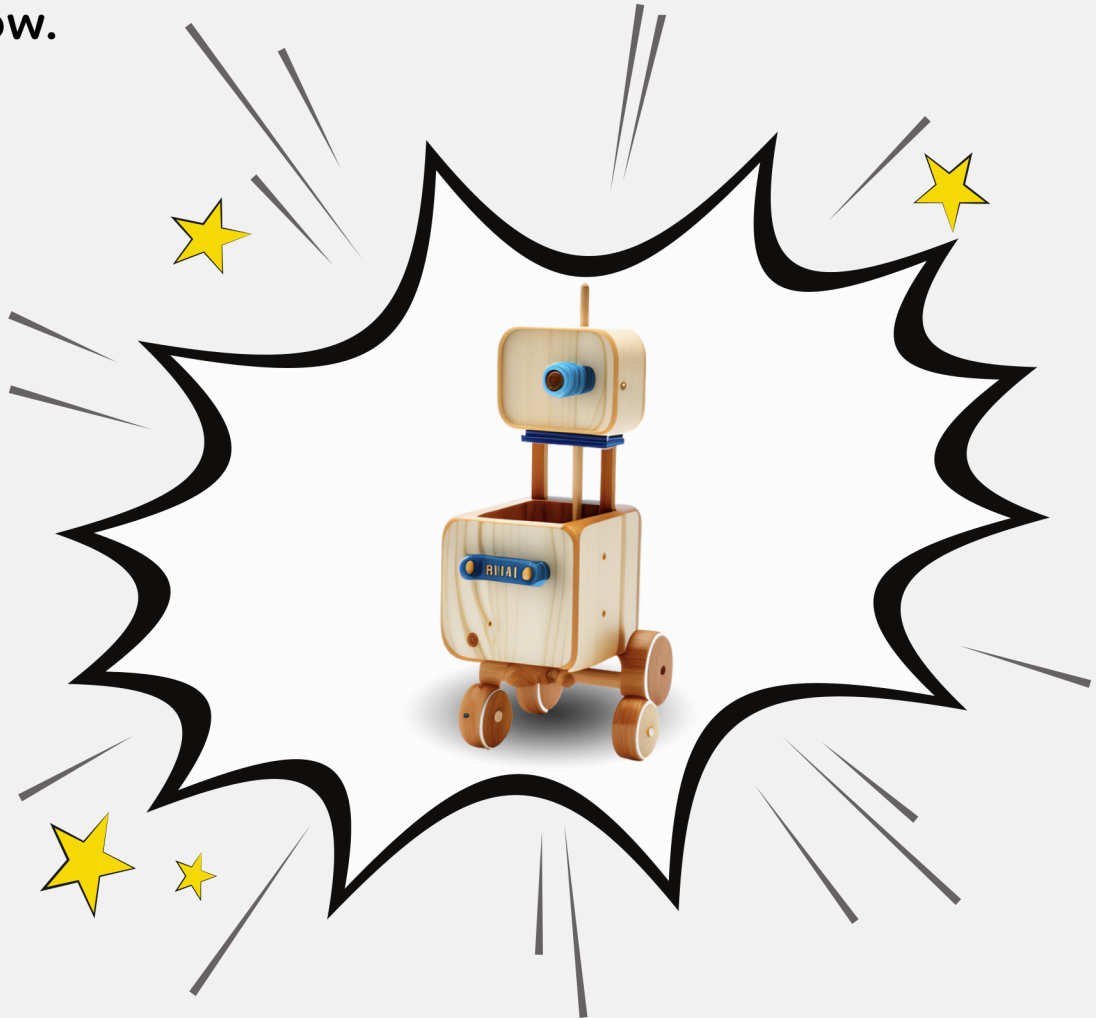
On a beautiful summer day, a boy named Bautista was writing in his notebook. He dreamed up a storybook character!



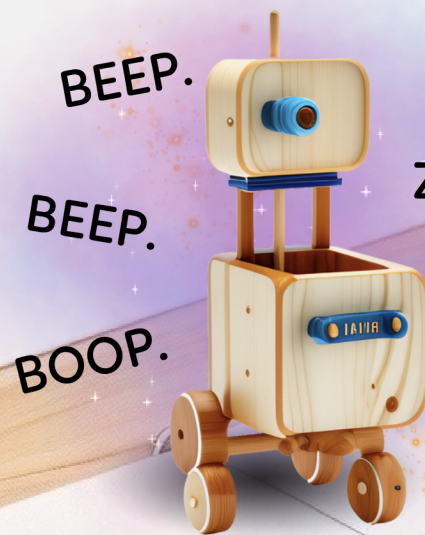
I'll name him...
Rat Boy Genius!

He is an animal,
but looks like a
human. He makes
new inventions
with garbage and
likes to eat fine
cheese.

Finishing the idea, Bautista left his notebook on the table and went to have a snack. As soon as he left the room, Captain Bot, a high-tech artificial intelligence robot, zoomed in through the open window.



She channeled her AI powers to bring the doodle of Rat Boy Genius to life...



He is an animal,
but looks like a
human. He makes
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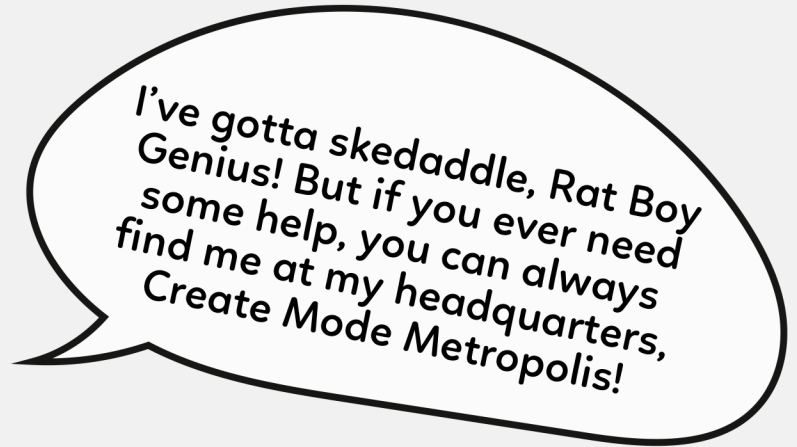
Rat Boy Genius popped right out of the page as a 3D character!

A-I A-I,
Captain Bot!

He is an animal, but
looks like a human. He
makes new inventions
with garbage and likes
to eat fine cheese.

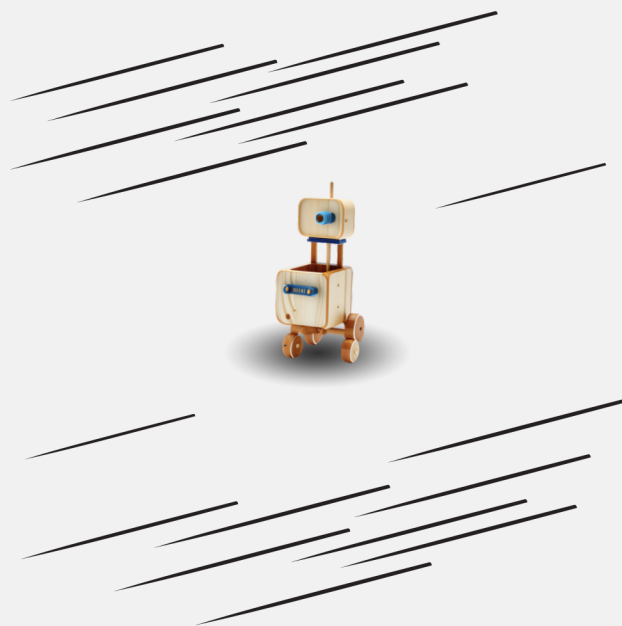


Captain Bot heard Bautista coming back to his room.



She tossed him a teleportation gadget that could bring him to Create Mode Metropolis at the click of a button.

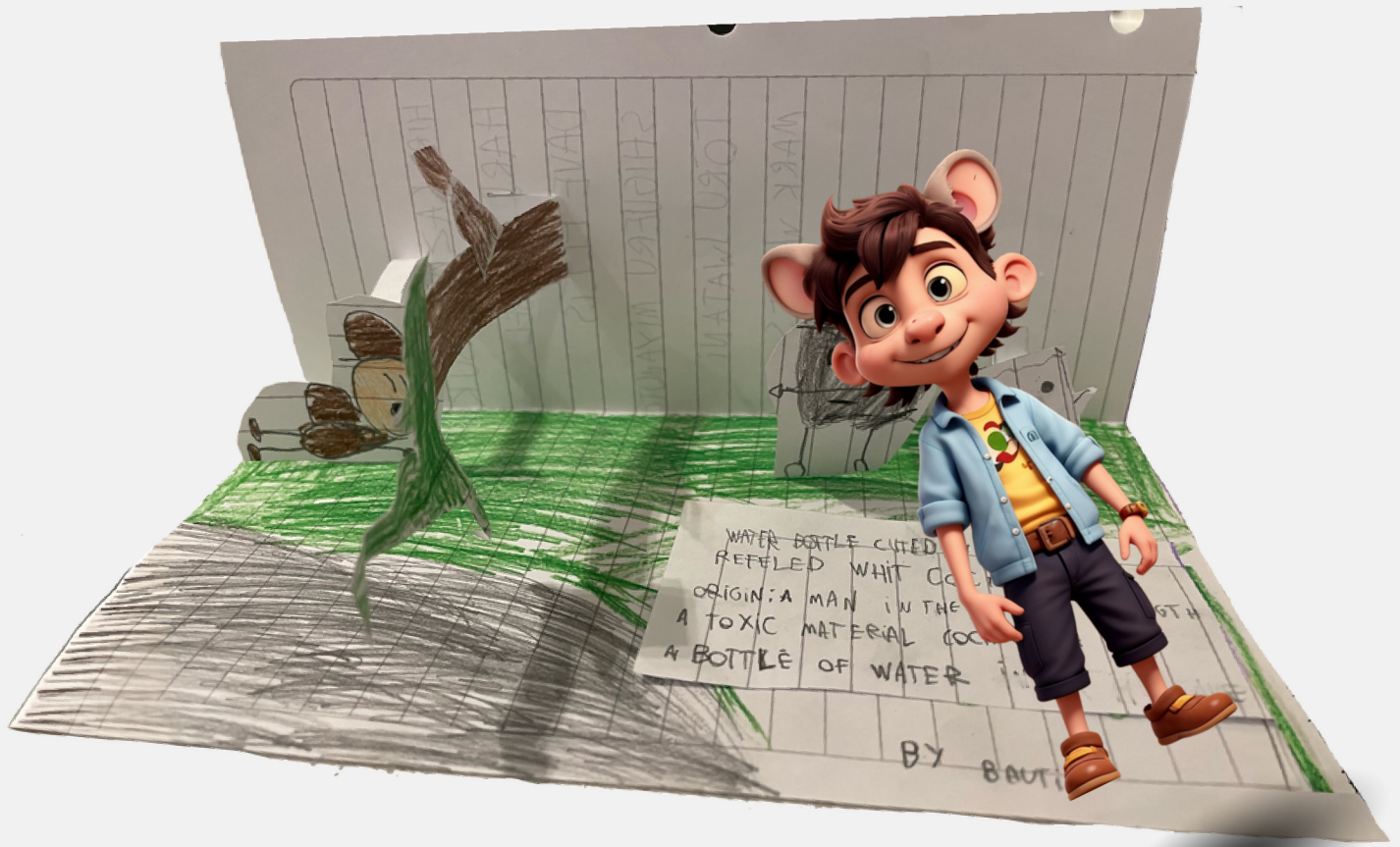
Rat Boy Genius put the device in his pocket and waved goodbye to Captain Bot. He looked around the room, trying to find somewhere to go before Bautista came back.



On Bautista's desk, he found another one of his creations: Raviolini's Cave!



“COWABUNGA!” Rat Boy Genius shouted as he jumped into the creation, entering a brand new universe.





Rat Boy Genius was walking towards the cave's entrance, when he smelled something coming from the other direction. He followed the scent until he stumbled upon something absolutely bizarre.

GIANT PILES OF PASTA!

Rigatoni!

Macaroni!

Fusilli!

Spaghetti!

“What in the world is all of this pasta doing here near Raviolini’s Cave?!” Rat Boy Genius asked himself.



There must be at
least 300 pounds
of pasta!

He knew there was only one way to figure it out – he needed the expertise of Captain Bot! He pulled out his teleportation device and zapped himself to...

CREATE MODE ✨
METROPOLIS ✨



A-I, A-I Captain Bot!
I need your help
solving a mystery!



“Welcome to Create Mode Metropolis, Rat Boy Genius! How can I help?” responded Captain Bot.

“Well,” Rat Boy Genius explained, “Hundreds of pounds of pasta have been dumped onto the island! Do you know why?”



Nope! But I can help you by bringing more of Bautista's ideas to life. They might come in handy while you solve this mystery... You see, in Create Mode Metropolis, we collect kids' inventions from all over the world and store them for mystery solvers like you.



Captain Bot showed one
of Bautista's creations.

Could this project
help you?

This is Cheese Land, filled
with all sorts of cheeses.



Rat Boy Genius started laughing.
“Delectable cheese perfection... BUT, I
don’t want to eat cheese, Captain Bot! I
want to find out how all that pasta got
there and who did it!”





This is the Glasses Box. People without hands can wear these glasses to control a screen with their eyes.

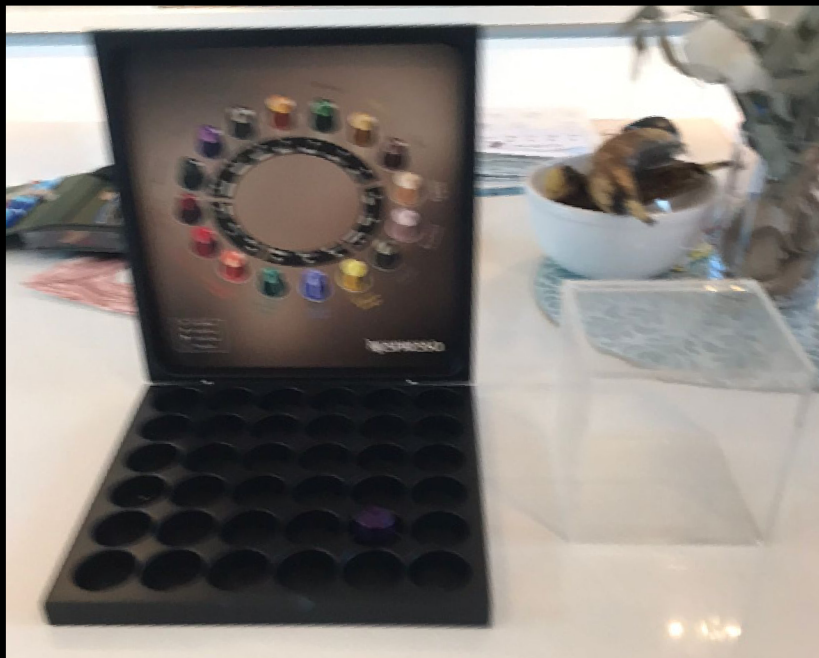
Haha, oops! What about this project?



“WHOA! That looks SUPER useful!” Rat Boy Genius shouted excitedly. Captain Bot harnessed her AI powers...

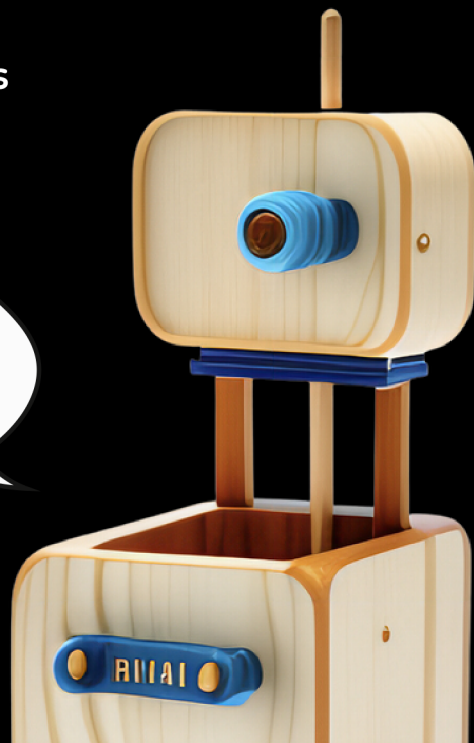


...and the project transformed into a 3D invention!



This is a computer that can connect to signals from outer space to speak with aliens.

Next up is the Alien Communicator.



“I definitely need that one,” said Rat Boy Genius. Captain Bot harnessed her AI powers...



...and the project popped into 3D!



And finally, Bautista's last creation is a rainbow game board.



“Yes! Yes! YES!” Rat Boy Genius yelled with excitement. Though he wasn’t quite sure what to do with the game board, yet...

Using Captain Bot’s AI powers –



– the project was brought to life!



“Thank you so much, Captain Bot!” Rat Boy Genius exclaimed, gathering the inventions. He teleported back to Raviolini's Cave to get started on solving this mystery.

Using the Glasses Box, Rat Boy Genius zoomed in on the pasta with the screen's camera and turned on the fingerprint app.





After some calculations, the app discovered that these fingerprints could only belong to three creatures: a forest penguin, a utopian unicorn, or a cocobat.

In the Penguin Village, he asked the forest penguins if they knew anything about the pasta, but they just shook their heads.



Next, he went to Unicorn Utopia. Rat Boy Genius asked the unicorns if they knew anything about the pasta, but they just laughed.



Plain pasta? We only eat food with rainbow glitter on it, of course!



Rat Boy Genius had only
one more suspect to go:



the cocobat.

He quickly spotted one flying around. Since cocobats speak in the same frequency as aliens, Rat Boy Genius took out the Alien Communicator to translate its screeches.



Hi, there! Do you know anything about the pasta piles that were recently found in Raviolini's Cave?



The cocobat's eyes widened.



Um, no. Nothing at all. Not me. I didn't do anything. Pasta? What's that? Haha.

She quickly flew away.

Rat Boy Genius thought she seemed familiar, so he sneakily followed behind her. She darted into an inventor's workshop and covered a large machine with a blanket.



Rat Boy Genius knocked
on the door.

“Sorry to bother you
again. You remind me of
one of Bautista’s ideas...
did he...?”



“Ok, fine! It was me! I did it! I caused the pasta disaster. I’m so sorry. Please don’t get me in trouble with Captain Bot! Oh, no! My life is ruined!” the cocobat confessed in a rush. She began to cry.



Rat Boy Genius patted her shoulder. “Don’t cry! I don’t want to get you in trouble. What happened?”

I am one of Bautista's animal discoveries. Captain Bot brought me to life to help her do some science experiments that Bautista designed. I was working on a machine to detect smells, but it completely malfunctioned! Once it got a whiff of my dinner, it cloned the plate of noodles. Oh, what a mess!





“Wow, it sounds like you are a talented engineer! Though, the machine probably does need a safety switch,” Rat Boy Genius said encouragingly.

Rat Boy Genius and the cocobat said
goodbye and promised to stay in touch.



Rat Boy Genius had finally
solved the pasta mystery!



But there was one last problem...



His stomach gurgled loudly. He was pretty hungry. Maybe Captain Bot really had been on to something after all...

I can't eat all of this by myself, he thought. Just then, he remembered the rainbow game board in his pocket. He tapped the yellow star and rainbow glitter burst out of it!



The glitter could make
the pasta rainbow-colored!

Rat Boy Genius smiled super wide. He knew just who to share this delicious pasta with.



THE END

DID YOU KNOW?!

This actually happened in New Jersey in April 2023! Someone found hundreds of pounds of pasta in the forest off the side of the road! Rat Boy Genius solved it with some of Bautista's inventions, but how would YOU go about solving this mystery? The case is still open! REALLY!



→ Watch the prompt to learn more about this mystery and solve it for yourself.

Bautista's Creative Journey

DAY 1



DAY 2



DAY 3



DAY 4



DAY 5



DAY 6



DAY 7



Scan the QR code
to learn more!





ABOUT The GIANT Room

The GIANT Room is a creative STEM hub for kids with GIANT dreams who dare to act on them. We help kids to use STEM as a tool for self expression, creativity, and collaboration.

The GIANT Room offers after school programs, camps, family events, specialized co-design workshops with industry designers, and online creative bootcamp membership. Kids may join our programs online, in-person at our studio, or off-site at one of our partner locations in museums and schools.

Founded by two women with PhDs in education and backgrounds in science and engineering, we dream of a world where every child has the confidence to voice their ideas, have access to mentors and resources they need to build prototypes of their ideas, and the opportunity to share those ideas with their community... just like the GIANT kids who published their collaborative, creative work in this beautiful storybook to be shared with millions of families around the world.

A GIANT thank you to Bautista, his family, and the GIANT team members who made this publication possible.

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