



Chouquette the Piñata and a Peculiar Pasta Mystery

A storybook written by The GIANT Room in collaboration with Rui

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This publication is a GIANT Remix of Rui's ideas, projects, and inventions made at The GIANT Room.

We chose some of these projects and mixed and remixed them to create this detective mystery storybook. His blue piñata became the main character, his epic marble run became the setting, and his eyebombing creations became high-tech scanner inventions! Will his projects help solve the mystery in the end?! Read on to find out...



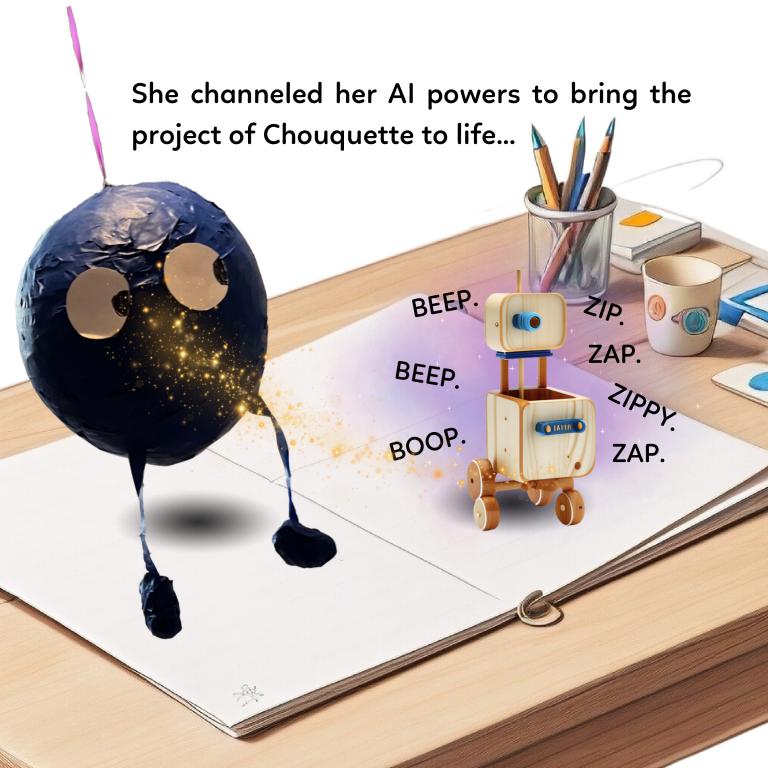
On a beautiful summer day, a boy named Rui was building with arts and crafts materials. He constructed a piñata!



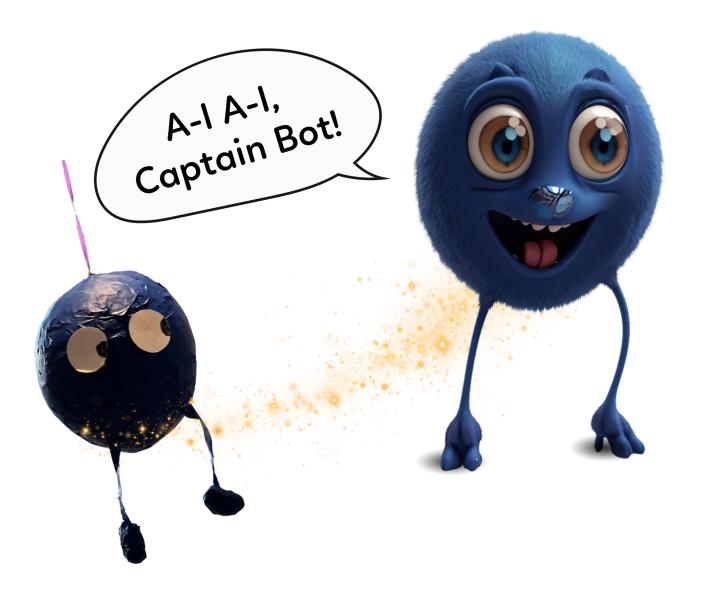


Finishing the project, Rui left his materials on the table and went to have a snack. As soon as he left the room, Captain Bot, a high-tech artificial intelligence robot, zoomed in through the open

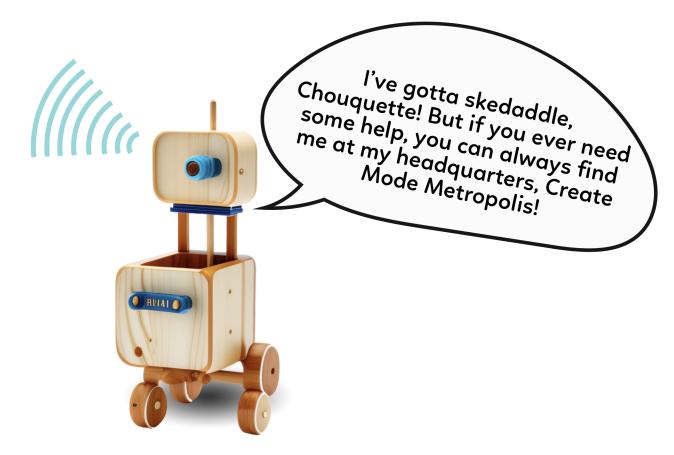




In a burst of sparkles, Chouquette came alive as a 3D character!



Captain Bot heard Rui coming back to his room.



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

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

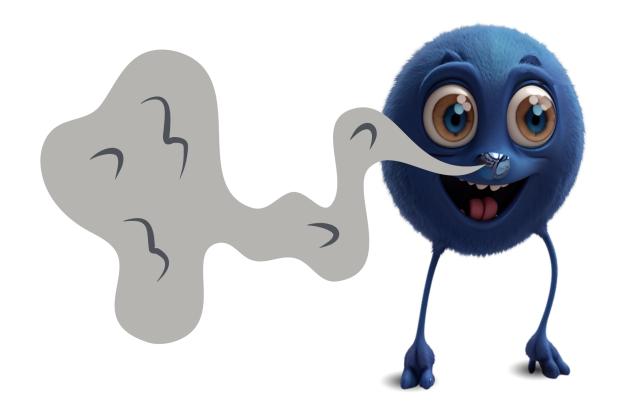




In Rui's room, he found another one of his creations: a city built around a marble run!







Chouquette was exploring the marble run city, 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!

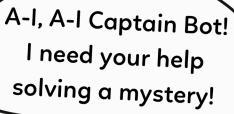
Spaghetti!

"What in the world is all of this pasta doing here?!" Chouquette asked himself.



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...





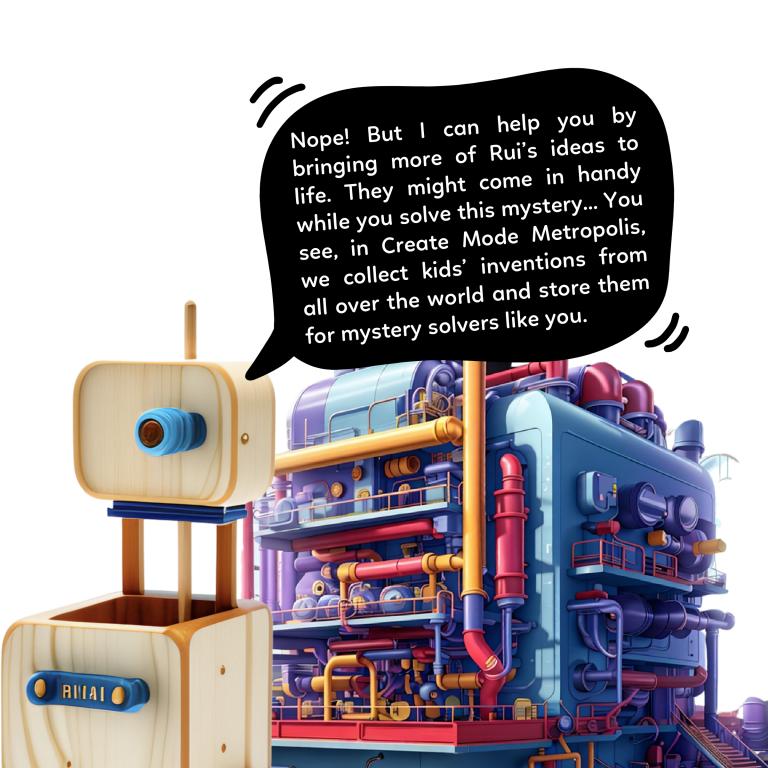




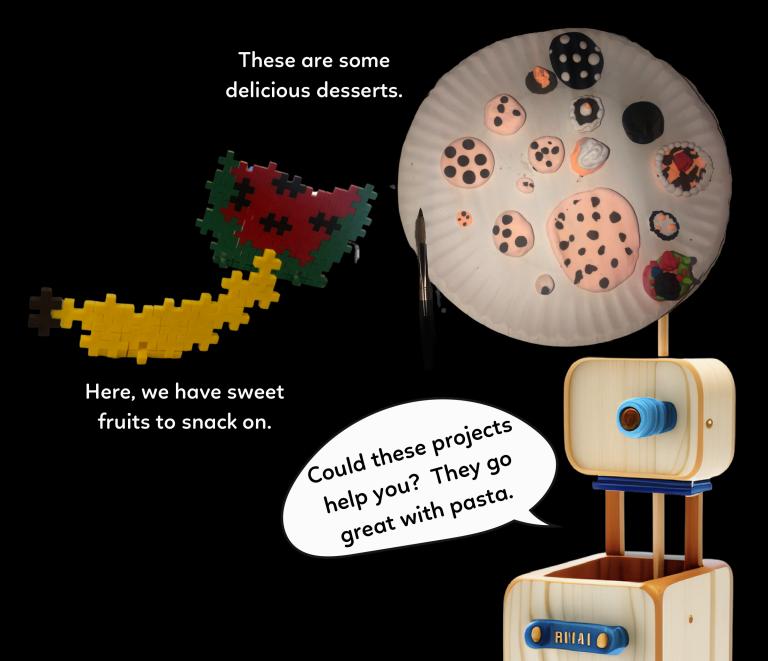
"Welcome to Create Mode Metropolis, Chouquette! How can I help?" responded Captain Bot.

"Well," Chouquette explained, "Hundreds of pounds of pasta have been dumped in the marble run city! Do you know why?"





Captain Bot showed a couple of Rui's creations.



Chouquette started laughing. "Delectable food perfection... BUT, I don't want to eat anything, Captain Bot! I want to find out how all that pasta got there and who did it!"







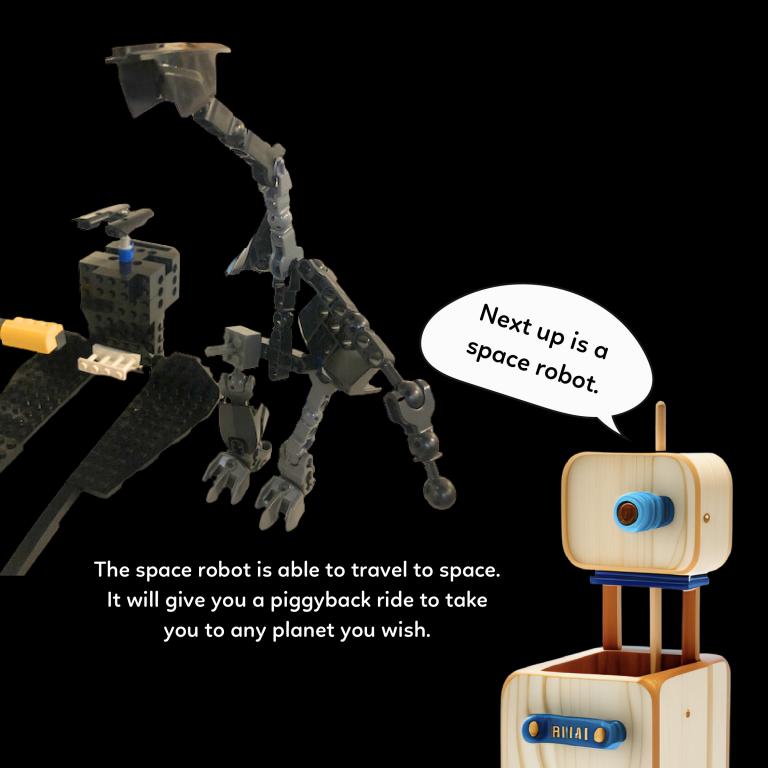




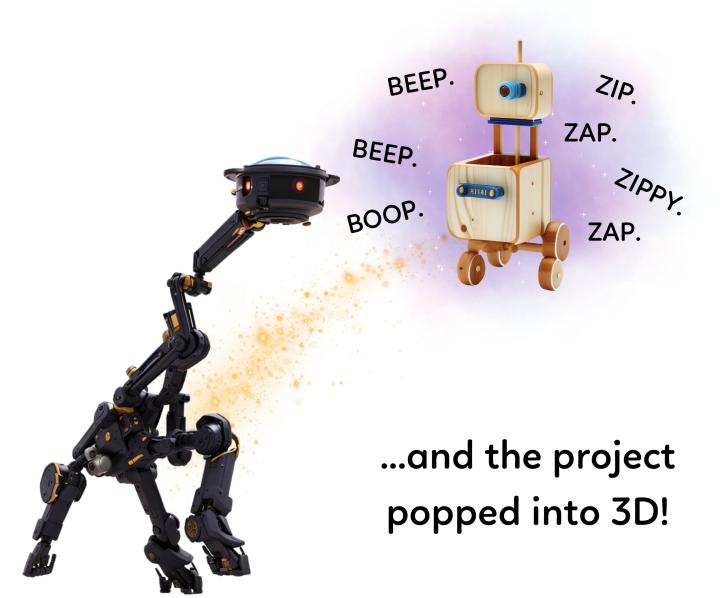


"WHOA! That looks SUPER useful!" Chouquette shouted excitedly. Captain Bot harnessed her Al powers...



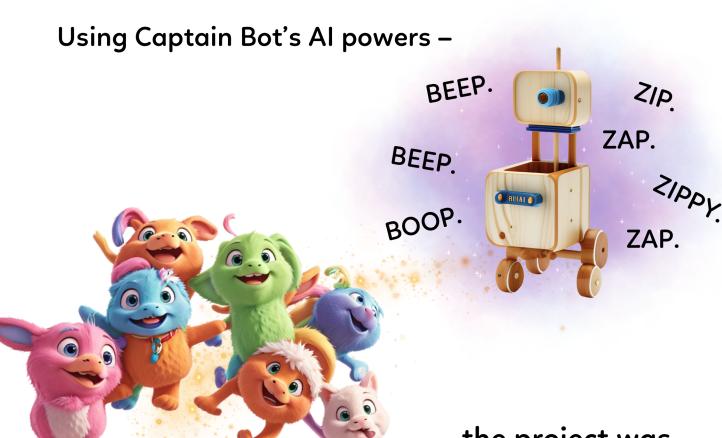


"I definitely need that one," said Chouquette. Captain Bot harnessed her Al powers...





"Yes! Yes! YES!" Chouquette yelled with excitement. Though he wasn't quite sure what to do with the rainbow friends, yet...



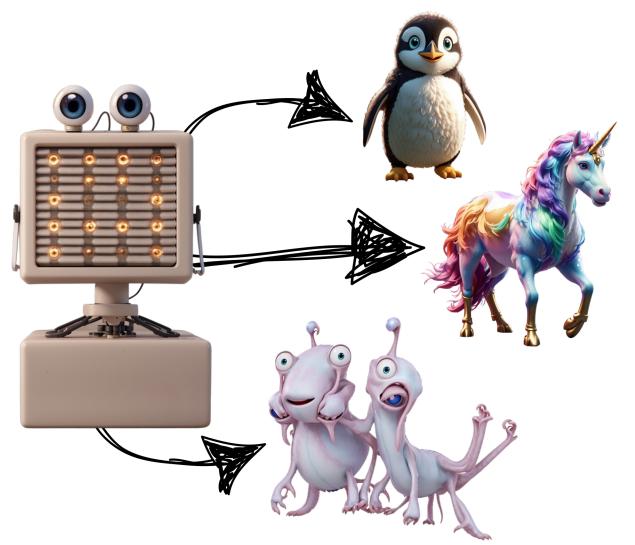
- the project was brought to life!



"Thank you so much, Captain Bot!" Chouquette exclaimed, gathering the inventions. He teleported back to the marble run city to get started on solving this mystery.

Chouquette placed the scanners around the pasta. The eyes began blinking wildly.





After some calculations, the scanners discovered that these fingerprints could only belong to three creatures: a forest penguin, a utopian unicorn, or a two-headed droolper. 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. Chouquette asked the unicorns if they knew anything about the pasta, but they just laughed

just laughed.



Plain pasta? We wouldn't eat anything that wasn't rainbow-colored, of course!



Chouquette had only one more suspect to go:



the two-headed droolper.



After landing, he soon ran into a two-headed

droolper.

Hi, there! Do you know
anything about the pasta
anything about the posta
anything about the posta
anything about the pasta

The two-headed droolper's eyes widened.

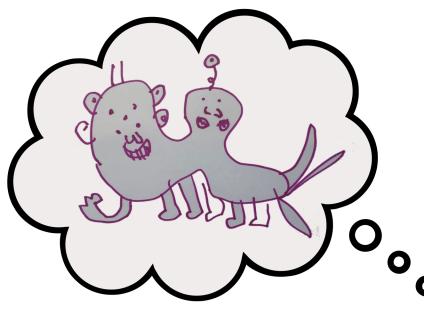


Um, no. Nothing at all. Not me. I didn't do anything. Pasta? What's that? Haha.

She quickly ran away.

Chouquette 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.





Chouquette knocked on the door.

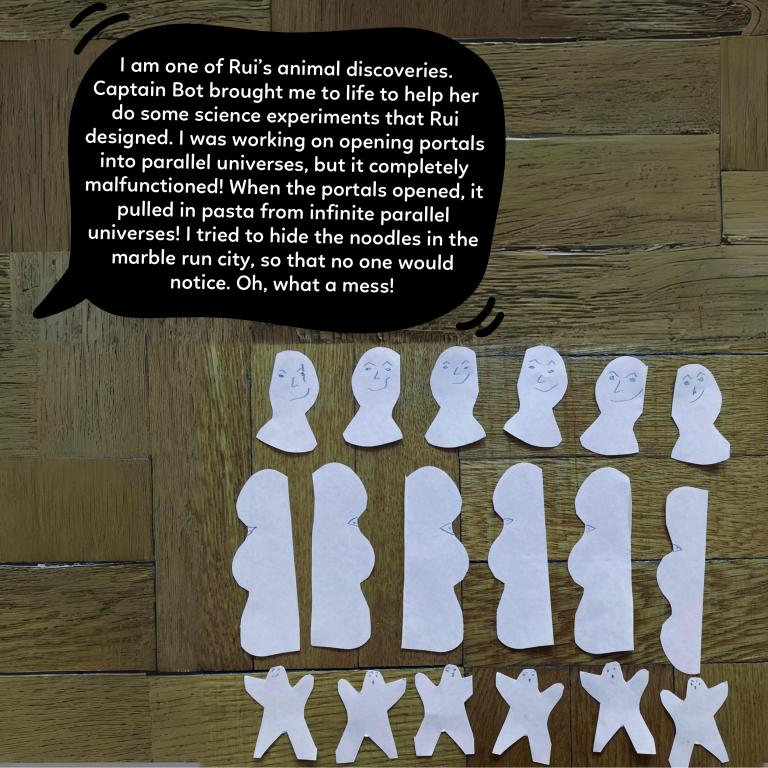
"Sorry to bother you again. You remind me of one of Rui's ideas...did he...?"



"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 two-headed droolper confessed in a rush. She began to cry.



Chouquette patted her shoulder. "Don't cry! I don't want to get you in trouble. What happened?"



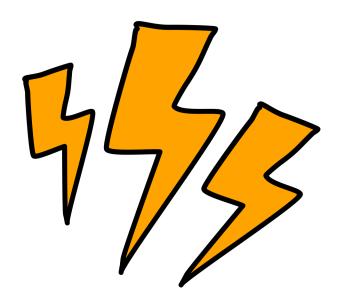
"Wow, it sounds like you are a talented engineer! Though, the parallel universe portals probably do need a safety switch," Chouquette said encouragingly.



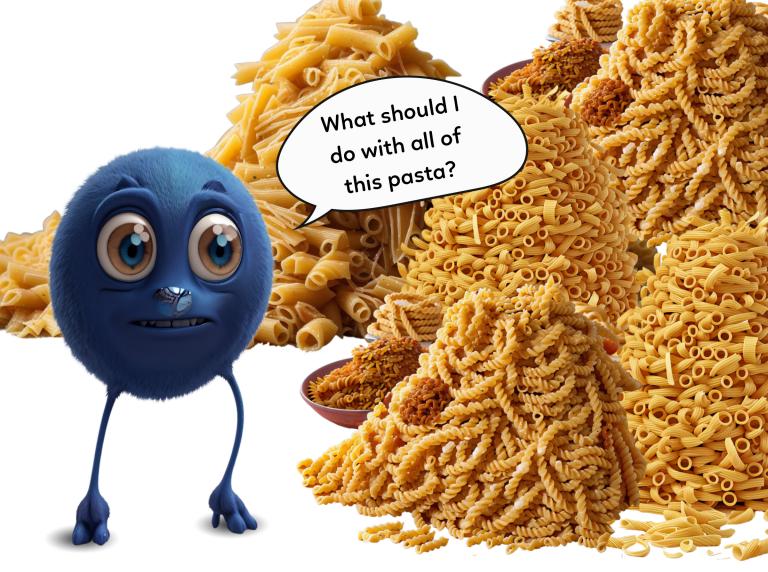
Chouquette and the two-headed droolper said goodbye and promised to stay in touch. Then, he jumped on the space robot's back and returned to the marble run city.



Chouquette 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 friends in his pocket.



They could help him make the pasta rainbow-colored!

Chouquette smiled super wide. He knew just who to share this delicious pasta with.



THEEND

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! Chouquette solved it with some of Rui'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.

Rui's Creative STEM Projects





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

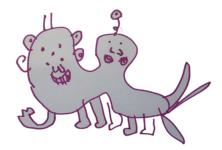
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ABOUT The GIANT Room

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, inperson 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.

