



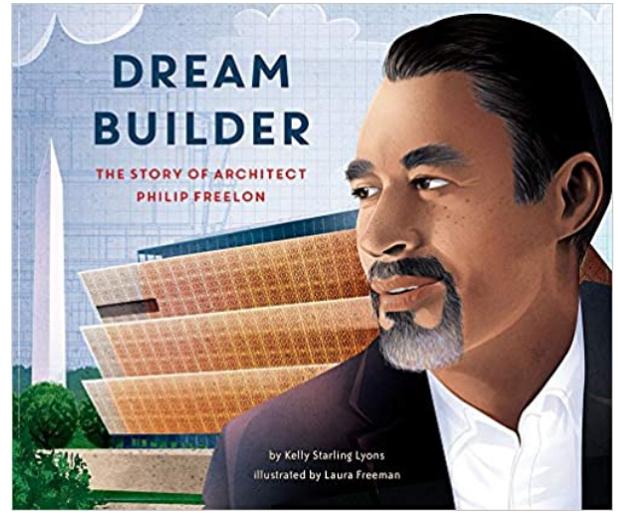
REGINALD F. LEWIS MUSEUM OF  
MARYLAND AFRICAN  
AMERICAN HISTORY  
& CULTURE

## FAMILY ACTIVITY SHEET

Celebrate late architect Philip Freelon's birthday (March 26, 1953) by reading the children's book *Dream Builder* and participate in the following activities.

### ***Dream Builder: The Story of Architect Philip Freelon*** by Kelly Starling Lyons

*Dream Builder: The Story of Architect Philip Freelon* celebrates a black STEAM role model, a man whose quiet work enabled the creation of an iconic building reflecting America's past and future.



**[Click HERE to purchase \*Dream Builder: The Story of Architect Philip Freelon\*](#)**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*Use following the reading*

1. Phillip Freelon struggled with reading as a child but was good at art. Name one thing that you struggle with and one thing that you are good at.
2. Philip Freelon's dream was to become an architect and design buildings. What do you dream to become when you grow up?
3. Phillip Freelon built museums, schools and libraries for communities. If you were an architect, what would you build for your community?

Philip Freelon was an award-winning architect of the **Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture** which opened in June 2005.

Everyday museum visitors remark about this beautiful building. The red, black and yellow colors on the building symbolizes Maryland's state colors.



Freelon also designed libraries, schools, parks, a number of historically African American colleges and museums, including the **Smithsonian National African American Museum of History and Culture** in Washington, D.C.

## FAMILY ACTIVITIES

*Try some of these activities with materials that you have at home.*

1. Design your own skyscraper with building Legos.
2. Sketch a new museum, park or school for your neighborhood. What features do you want your visitors to see and enjoy?
3. Draw a floor plan of one of your living spaces from home.
4. Build a structure with toothpicks, straws, marshmallows or playdough.
5. Build a shoebox house or buildings using shoe boxes, paper, markers and other supplies from your home



# HOME BLUEPRINT

Sketch a floor plan of the different living spaces in your home. Choose what furniture that you need for each space. Make sure to label each room of its use (for example, *kitchen*, *bedroom*, *living room*, etc.) Older children are encouraged to measure each room and list the dimensions.

