

THERE MIGHT BE GIANTS? – TEACHING INQUIRY BASED MATHEMATICS

Could giants like in 'Jack and the Beanstalk' or the 1950's sci-fi film 'Attack of the 50 foot woman' really exist? Are there limits to the sizes of organisms? Constructivism is the idea that as learners, we must construct our own knowledge and 'own it,' so to speak.

These

questions about giants will be explored mathematically from a context

of how to design inquiry-based mathematics lessons from a constructivist perspective. This presentation describes an 8th grade

lesson where, using the Necessity Principle, lesson concepts and discussions are coordinated to create opportunities for students to develop personally meaningful mathematical understandings in proportional reasoning.