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BUILDING ON NATURE
THE LIFE OF ANTONI GAUDÍ

RACHEL RODRÍGUEZ
Illustrated by JULIE PASCHKIS
Antoni Gaudi was born in a small town in Spain called Catalonia. Gaudi loved to see nature all around him, mountain peaks, olive trees and the sparkling blue sea.
Gaudi's father was a metal smith, someone who works with metal and fire. Gaudi watched flat pieces of metal change into shapes.

By watching his father Gaudi learned things, but Gaudi wanted to build large buildings.
After high school, Gaudi traveled to Barcelona, a city in Spain, to be an architect who draws buildings.
Gaudi’s first big project was a building called the Vicens House. The building is a checkerboard of colored tiles. People stopped and stared at this building, because they have never seen a building decorated with brightly colored tiles.
Gaudi's next building was the Guell country home, that he made for a friend. A dragon is on a gate to the home. The gate has a dragon fangs and tongue.

Gaudi's buildings were different other buildings in Spain.
The next building that Gaudi built was the Casa Batllo.

Gaudi made the roof of the building to look like a dragon's back.

The building's had giant animal feet, the balcony looked like bones. Gaudi made the wall smooth like snake skin.
The Casa Mila is a building that made people mad.

Gaudi's buildings look different.

Gaudi did not care what people said about him,

Gaudi liked his buildings.
Gaudi’s next project, Park Guell, was inspired by nature.

Park Guell was on a hill. The houses by the gate are decorated with colorful tiles. A mosaic lizard is in the park.
In the park, a long bench wraps around a playground.

Gaudi broke old glass colored tiles and plates and used the little pieces to decorate the bench.

Building on Nature

By: Rachel Rodrigues

Adapted from the original text, Building on Nature: The Life of Antoni Gaudi by Rachel Rodriguez, Henry Holt and Company Publishers
Gaudi’s last building was a church, La Sagrada Familia. Gaudi began to make the church in 1883, and the church was finished after Gaudi died in 1910. The church is tall like mountains and many colors the church.
Gaudi made buildings that are colorful and different.

Gaudi's buildings are beautiful to look at.
The End
Object Guide to Gaudi Story

Page 1: Tree branch to represent the olive tree.

Page 3: A piece of metal to represent Gaudi’s metal smith father.

Page 5: Triangular ruler used by architects when designing/drawing buildings. This represents Gaudi as an architect.

Page 7: A bright colored ceramic tile to represent the Vicens House that is decorated with colored ceramic tiles.

Page 9: A miniature plastic dragon to represent the metal dragon that is perched on the Guell country home gate.

Page 11: A plastic bone that represents the balconies on the Casa Batllo.

Page 13: Colored ceramic tile to represent the tile on the Casa Mila.

Page 15: A miniature plastic lizard to represent the mosaic lizard that sits at the park’s entrance.

Page 17: A plate to represent the materials Gaudi used to mosaic the park bench located in Park Guell.

Page 19: A small plastic sculpture of Mary to represent the small sculptures of the Holy family, that is located on the outside of the La Sagrada Familia building.

Page 21: A colored ceramic tile to represent the colorful tiles Gaudi used to decorate his buildings and sculptures.

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