

# Fun with patterns

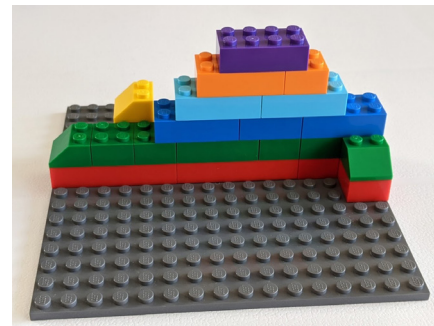
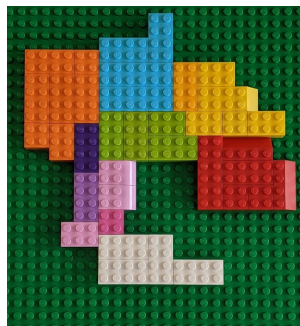
Having fun creating patterns with bricks!

## Skills we will be engaging

- SOCIAL** — Talking, sharing, showing interest.  
**EMOTIONAL** — Pride in creation, feeling calm.  
**COGNITIVE** — Patterns and sequences, focus.  
**CREATIVE** — Creating new patterns.  
**PHYSICAL** — Understanding space, using bricks.

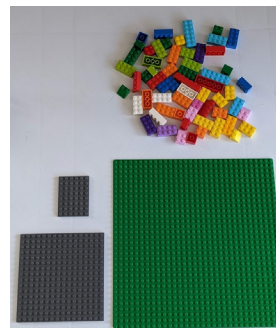
## Getting ready

- Aim for a time of the day that works for your family.
- Read the activity beforehand and get the materials ready.
- Feel free to adapt the activity to meet individual needs (e.g. avoid disliked colours or use a soft surface to reduce brick noise)
- Have a snack and a drink, a movement break and a quick trip to the toilet.



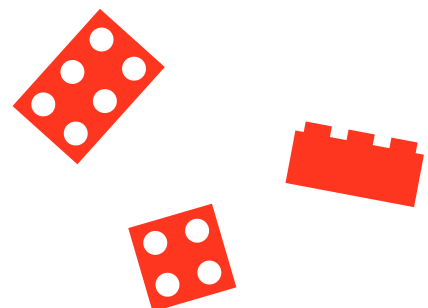
## You will need

- 20 to 50 bricks. Include different shapes and colours that can be sorted into groups.
- Baseplate is ideal if you want to build a flat pattern or picture.




## How to play


- 01 Ask your child to **sort the bricks** in any way they want to.
- 02 Say to your child “**Now lets build a pattern using our bricks**”.
- 03 Let your child start to build a pattern with the bricks. It can be a **flat design** on a baseplate or a **structure**.
- 04 **Watch** which pieces their fingers find and how they decide where they fit best.
- 05 See **how many patterns** you can make using the bricks.
- 06 **Take a photo** of your patterns or show them to a friend or family member.



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"What a great pattern! Can I try to copy it?"



"Which brick could you add next to your pattern?"

## Talk & play

- Take a few moments to watch what your child is doing. Notice and comment on what is happening.
- You might like to ask your child some questions while you play.



## Go with the flow

If the activity doesn't go exactly to plan, or you do things differently to the way they are described in the instructions, then that's ok. Go with the flow, follow your child's lead and have fun!

# Adapt the activity

## Make it easier

- Use **less bricks**.
- Start to build a **simple pattern together**.
- You can start to build a pattern with some bricks and ask your child "**can you copy my pattern?**"
- Prepare a pattern and **take a photo**, then help your child to re-create it.

## Including others

- Children create a pattern together for parents to copy.
- Ask your child if you can try to continue their pattern by adding your own bricks.

## Let's do a challenge

- **Add more bricks**.
- **Let your child choose** the bricks they want to use.
- Create patterns with **different shaped bricks**.
- Using a baseplate try **create a picture** from the bricks you have.
- Look for **patterns in the house or outside** and see if you can re-create them using bricks.



## Signs of Success

Check-in with your child and see if they are having fun, you know your child best, and you'll recognise what fun looks like for them. Remember it's about everyone feeling happy and relaxed.