



Freestyle building

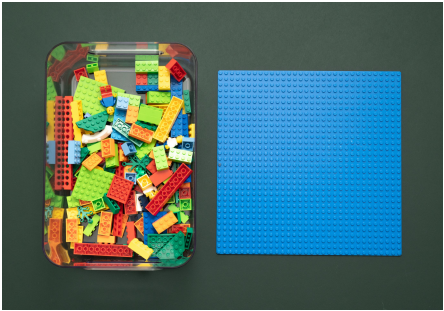
Create and build something using your imagination!

Skills we will be engaging

- SOCIAL — Sharing, listening, talking.
- EMOTIONAL — Feeling calm, enjoyment.
- COGNITIVE — Flexible thinking.
- CREATIVE — Using your imagination.
- PHYSICAL — Connecting bricks.

You will need

- A lot of bricks, in many different shapes, colours, sizes and functions.
- Minifigures and a baseplate to build on, if available.



Getting ready

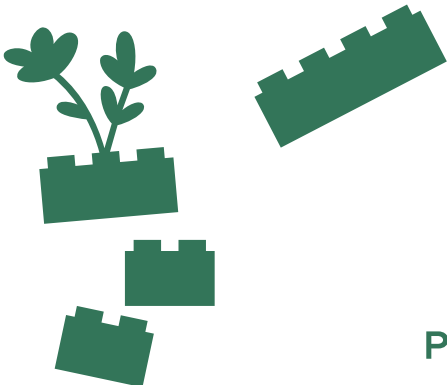
- Aim for a time of the day that works for your family.
- Read the activity beforehand and get the materials ready.
- Feel free to adapt the activity to meet individual needs (e.g. avoid disliked colours or use a soft surface to reduce brick noise)
- Have a snack and a drink, a movement break and a quick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



How to play

This activity is all about **building a model of your own design** from any bricks that you have.

Let your **child start** to play with the bricks and see what develops. Watch what they are doing and **join in** if they are happy for you to do so.



PLAY INCLUDED

Ideas to help you join in



Sit together

Talk to them about what they are building.



Praise effort

"Wow, your tower is nearly as tall as the chair!"



Watch & comment

"Wow, I love that tree it's so colourful!"



Both build your own model

Build alongside your child and talk as you build.



Offering help

Offer to help find bricks they need.



Build together

Work together on the same model.



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!

Hints & tips

- **Let your child decide** what to build.
- Build **something to go with a set** you already have. E.g. A garage for a car.
- **Recreate** a favourite toy, story or film.
- If your child finds this tricky, you could start a build to **kickstart ideas**, "Look I made..."
- Try the [#LetsBuildTogether](#) page on [LEGO.com](#) for creative ideas.
- If you run out of time, **keep the model** somewhere safe. Plan a time to finish it together.

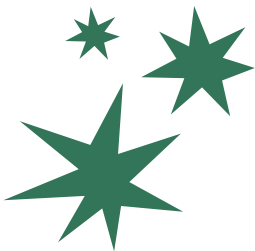
After you've finished

- **Play** together with what you have built!
- **Celebrate** what you have made!
- Tell your child **how much you enjoyed it**, *"I loved building with you."*
- **Talk together** about your model. *"I really like the house we made! My favourite bit was using lots of colours for the walls! What bit did you like best?"*
- **Show your model** to someone else.
- Find somewhere to **display** the model or keep it safe
- **Share** your creations using the hashtag [#playincluded](#).

Including others



- Help the children find a theme together.
- Ask the children to explain to each other what they have built.
- Encourage them to play together, e.g. using minifigures and role play.



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.