

Get ready for school— *Play with Blocks!*

Block Play builds:

- ⇒ Math Skills
- ⇒ Science Skills
- ⇒ Literacy & Language Skills
- ⇒ Social Skills
- ⇒ Technology Skills
- ⇒ Creativity

Sample questions to ask during block play:

- ◆ I wonder if there is another way to build a bridge with those blocks?
- ◆ How many more blocks do you think you will need to finish that fence?
- ◆ Do you think we have enough blocks to build a road all the way to the door?
- ◆ How is this tower like that building?
- ◆ What do you think would happen if we put a round block on the top of the tower?
- ◆ How will we know which building is the store?
- ◆ You've built a zoo! (Town, farm, mall etc.)
Tell a story about your zoo and I'll write it down for you.
- ◆ We've used all the square blocks. Is there another shape we can use instead?
- ◆ How many blocks have you used so far? Let's count them together.
- ◆ What's the name of this shape? And this one?

Free block play!

Allow plenty of time for playing with blocks.

Ask your child to tell you about their construction. Take a photo of it, or sketch it for your child.

Build a Tower

On a flat surface, build a tower of blocks with your child as tall as you can.

- How high can you build it before it falls?
- What sort of blocks work best for stacking?

Your Neighborhood

Take a walk in your neighborhood

- Talk with your child about what you saw.
- Build your neighborhood using blocks

Block Dominos

On a flat surface, build a line of blocks close together, one after the other. Knock down the last block triggering all the blocks to fall down.

- Did it work?
- Why or why not?
- What could you change to make it work better?

Sorting

Encourage your child to sort all the blocks:

- By color
- By shape

Make a Block Chute!

Using a wrapping paper or paper towel tube, hold it on an angle for your child and let them practice dropping small blocks through the tube.

- What happens to the blocks?
- Which blocks move through the tube the fastest?
- What else could you put through the tube?