

Week of the Young Child: Work Together Wednesday

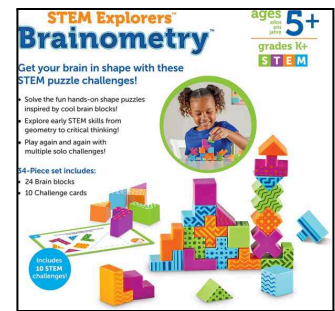
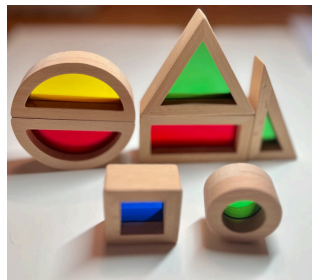
Building is lots of fun! It also helps children develop math and science concepts while they work on social skills.



Playful learning doesn't require expensive toys and fancy tech gadgets. Some of the best items are those that invite open-ended, child-led play, such as blocks and play dough, and natural materials like sand, water, and pine cones. Almost anything, from plastic containers to pillows, can be a building toy, and can be used for sensory, creative, and dramatic play. Join your child for the most engaging experience.

Join the Block Party

We have a great selection of developmentally appropriate block sets. We invite you and your child to sit at a table or on the floor, and see where the fun takes you.



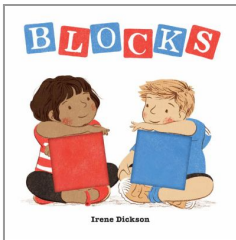
Benefits of Block Play:

- Spatial language development (such as on, under, around)
- Exploration of basic physics concepts like balance
- Problem-solving, critical thinking, and creativity
- Early math skills such as shape, pattern, and sorting
- Promotion of social and emotional growth
- Motor skill development

Research shows that early math skills and spatial language knowledge are related to later success in math **and** reading.

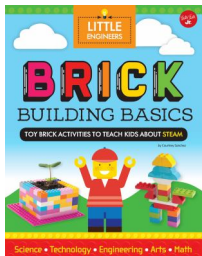
Let's Read

Have fun exploring these books about building, construction, and invention.



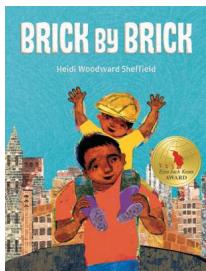
Blocks by Irene Dickson

[Picture Book Concepts/Shapes and Sizes
DIC](#)



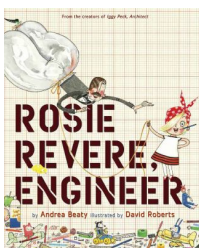
Brick Building Basics by Courtney Sanchez

[Kids Nonfiction 688.725 S \(Easy\)](#)



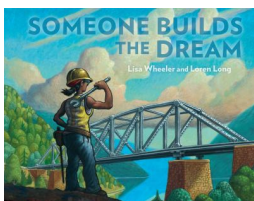
Brick by Brick by Heidi Woodward Sheffield

[Picture Book All About Me/My Family SHE](#)



Rosie Revere, Engineer by Andrea Beaty

[Picture Book Nature & Science BEA](#)



Someone Builds the Dream by Lisa Wellington

[Award Winners Picture Book WHE Monarch](#)

Sources: [Building 21st-century skills block by block by Karen Liu, July 2014, Community Playthings](#), [Navigating Spatial Language with Preschoolers, Teaching Young Children, Winter 2021 14\(2\), NAEYC](#), [10 things children learn from block play, Young Children, March 2015, 70\(1\), NAEYC](#)