

Appropriate for :
Young Toddlers and Older Toddlers.

Blocks Around the House



SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- 10 or more empty boxes and other sturdy shaped objects to stack (coffee cans, food boxes, wipe containers, formula cans, etc)
- Newspaper
- Heavy duty tape
- Colored contact paper

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Stuff each box or object with newspaper (for durability).
- Tape closed.
- Cover with tape, contact paper, pictures, etc. if desired.

What the adult can do to support learning and development in these domains:

- Allow children to explore the blocks anyway they choose (stacking, banging, building).
- Describe children's creative use of the materials ("I see you are banging the block on the floor.") and acknowledge their persistence ("You kept trying until you figured out how to use the bigger block on the bottom so your tower doesn't fall over.")
- Encourage children as they reach for, lift, and balance blocks to build.

Examples of language that can be used between caregiver and child:

- "Please tell me about your building and how you made it."
- "What else can you do with the blocks?"
- "Oh, you put the little block on top of the big block."
- "Look! 1, 2, 3 blocks stacked up."

This activity highlights support for the following *NCFELD* domain:

Cognitive Development	Approaches to Play & Learning	Language Development & Communication	Emotional and Social Development	Health & Physical Development
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