



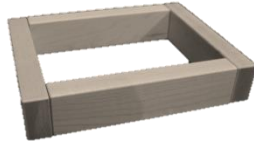


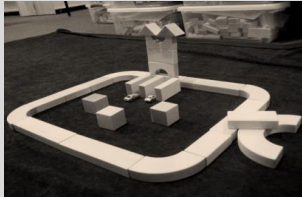


Child Behavior		Ideas to support	Questions/Comments/Challenges
<p>Stage 1: Sensory Exploration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dropping blocks • Banging blocks together or on other objects • Mouthing • Knocking blocks over 		<p>Provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variety of shapes mini unit blocks • Small baskets to store them • Low shelf to enable babies to reach them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place baskets of blocks at a distance to challenge baby in retrieving. • Stack blocks to invite baby to knock them over. • As you parallel play, repeat baby's actions in your own handling of blocks. • Model self-talk as you play with the blocks (I'm knocking the blocks together.) • Narrate baby's actions – (The block falls down. Bang!)
<p>Stage 2: Carrying</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carries blocks • Can move shapes to a location • Explores with senses • May hit blocks together or against other objects • Can compare to find the same block • Can match shapes of different sizes 		<p>Provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wagons for hauling • Buckets/baskets for carrying • Boxes to fill with blocks • Small suitcases or briefcases to pack the blocks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the blocks fit in this box? • How could you make a line with the blocks? • Can you find any more blocks that look just like this one? • Let's put only these kinds of blocks in the bottom of the box. I wonder if they will fit. • How are these blocks different? • Can you find more blocks like this one by the window?
<p>Stage 3: Stacking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stacks blocks either vertically (towers) or horizontally (rows) • May not be selective of what blocks to stack at first, but later understands that stacking similar blocks works better • Begins to build sets of rows and towers • Rows may begin to go in different directions, making corners 		<p>Provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pattern cards for children to copy • Cars and road signs • Floor mats or place mats to build on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I see you are putting the blocks on top of each other. • Tell me why you are using only these kinds of blocks to stack? • I notice you are laying the blocks next to each other. • You made a long road. Let's count how many blocks you used. One, two, three . . . • How high is your tower? Let's count how many blocks... • You are stacking these the tall way and they fall down. If you stacked them the short way, will it stay standing? • Which row is longer? The four squares or the four rectangles? • I see you used a long double unit on the bottom, and then you put two unit blocks on top to match. They fit just perfectly. • You put the triangle at the very top of the rectangles!
<p>Stage 4: Bridging</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridges the space between two upright blocks with a third block • Often happens at the same time as enclosures • Often begins by holding top piece and placing ends beneath • Eventually doesn't have to think hard to make corners and edges flush 		<p>Provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pictures of bridges • Architectural drawings showing bridging concepts • Large pieces of blue cloth to symbolize water • Boats • Columns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You made the top block balance. I bet that wasn't easy. • Some of your blocks lie down and some stand up. • You could drive a car through this space! • Can you think of another kind of block to make a bridge? • You have some windows in your structure! I can look through them at you! • Last week you were building structures with one level. Now you have three! • Which one of your bridges is tallest? Longest? Can you make it even longer?

<p>Stage 5: Enclosures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purposefully places blocks to enclose a space • Making things fit well becomes more important – the corners begin to match up • Complex bridges with multiple arches with ramps and stairs with ends appear • Can eventually anticipate what the shape will look like before building • Works into building enclosures and bridges several blocks high 		<p>Provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm/zoo animals • Doll house furniture • Fruits and vegetables to make a fruit or vegetable stand at a farmer's market • Posters/photographs of buildings that show examples of enclosures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look, your blocks make a space in the middle. • What shape is the open space in the middle? Could you make the open space a square? Is there a way to make an open space a triangle? • How many blocks do you think it will take to fill up that space? • That was clever to make both ends of your building match. • I see you used one block that is longer than the others. • All of your blocks except one are touching. • You used five blocks. You made the whole structure with just five blocks. • You have each block touching just at the very tips of the corners. • You used five blocks and they touch on five corners. What shape is in the middle?
<p>Stage 6: Patterns and Symmetry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Builds structures with balance, symmetry, and decorative elements • Structures may be horizontal structures or vertical 		<p>Provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenge cards of photographs and/or paintings of buildings • Challenge cards of symmetrical patterns • Mirrors • Blank paper to make signs and labels • Roofing materials • Field trips around neighborhood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did you decide to put those blocks together? • If you don't have enough rectangles, what else could you use? What if you run out of squares? • I notice you put the roof on very gently. • You make a different kind of triangle when you put those two triangles together! • It looks like a triangle from here, but if I stand over here, I see a rectangle. • How many openings do you have? • Is it taller or wider? • I notice you have a pattern here. You have the same sized opening on each side, the same triangles on top...
<p>Stage 7: Early Representational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporates building techniques from stages 1-5 • Begins naming structure during or after construction 		<p>Provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenge cards • Block building books • House building magazines • Blueprints • Field trips around neighborhood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I see you used all the same kinds of blocks to build this. Would it work with different kinds? • Did you change anything? What made you decide to change it? • I notice your top floor fell a few times. How did you get to it stay up? • How could you add a chimney to it? • Where could you add a lookout? • I wonder if you could add a turret to your castle.
<p>Stage 8: Later Representational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Often announces name of structure before building begins • Builds familiar settings • Uses structure and related accessories for dramatic play 		<p>Provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measuring tools • Photographs of familiar buildings and structures • Accessories that relate to type of structure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You built a tall apartment house. How do the people get to their floor? • Can you tell me what you plan to do to build your house/road/train station? • Where do people park their cars when they come to visit the shopping center? • Is there a way to connect your houses to make a mansion?