



LEGO:

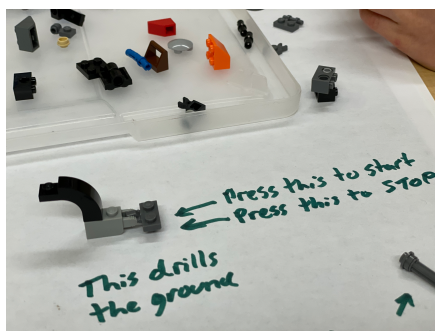
Setting the Table



How LEGO is presented has profound impact on creative and learning possibilities. While there is great value in providing freedom of exploration by simply presenting large amounts in tubs, or dumped onto mats and rugs, more intentional presentation and part curation can help shape and deepen the experience. How might setups be even more intriguing, inspiring, accessible, and inviting, while still provoking open creativity, surprise, joy, and play? How might they make children's thinking more visible? What discoveries and connections could emerge? We hope these examples will help inspire your own Lego play and exploration.

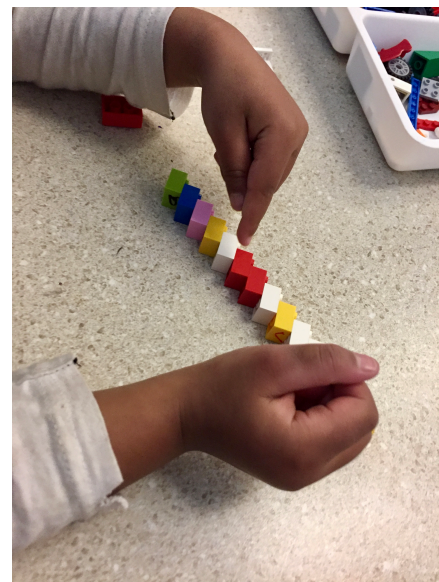
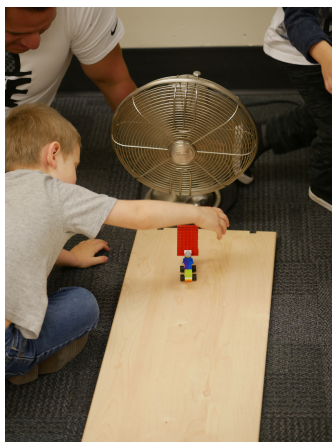
Capturing Stories and Inventions

Using paper to set places allows for teachers and students to directly record ideas in ways that helps model writing and show care and attention to inventions, characters, and all aspects of playful stories and creations.



Ramps, Fans, and Rolling

Science exploration can be sparked by adding simple small ramps to the table, or other means such as turning an entire table into a ramp by temporarily removing two legs. Fans, and adding tape, paper, and scissors to Lego provides additional air-powered possibilities!



Math: Sorting, Counting, Patterns, Spatial Visualization

Math exploration can be invited in many ways. One is to encourage pattern formation and recognition by providing large amounts of the same kind of piece, in many colors. By stepping away from a greater variety of pieces, building becomes more about connecting same and similar pieces, without the constraint of searching for particular or special parts. Inclusion of rulers provides additional exploration and measurement discovery possibilities. Setting out paper helps capture mathematical curiosity, thinking, and stories.

Material Sources

IKEA Trays:

KUGGIS insert with 8 compartments

STÖDJÄ Flatware trays (various sizes)

Hot Wheels LEGO compatible car models:

"Expermotor" "Brick" and "Block" models (many varieties currently available)

Minifigures:

LEGO item #40516: "Everyone is Awesome"