



MAKE A SONG

Activity Sheet

v.02

INTRODUCTION:

Children are noisy creatures, they love to move, to make funny sounds, to sing, and they are uninhibited natural creatives. This activity combines multiple sensory skills, singing, playing games, patterning, rhythm, clapping, movement, and dance. Children learn through play, musical activities help the neurological, social-emotional, and cognitive development of a child's brain.

ELEMENTS:

- Music
- Sound Creation
- Rhythm
- Melody
- Harmony
- Tone Recognition
- Musical Instruments
- Genre
- Style
- Expression

ACTIVITY:

Activity #1:

Take two blocks and click-clack together to hear how they sound. Does the size and shape of the block change the sound that is produced?

Activity #2:

Take one block and find various objects throughout your classroom that the block can make a sound with. If the object is metal does it stick? Does the tone of the sound change?

Have each student sit in a circle with the objects they found (pan, pencil, crayon, etc.) Then let each child play their sound. What kind of sounds do they make? How are they different?

After that have the class play together and create a song, whether they take turns playing the beats, or try to play in rhythm together, they are learning to recognize patterns, timing, balance, and cooperation.

Extend the task by having the children create song lyrics to go with their beats. You can have a team of instrumental students and a team of lyricists.

For the Scientific Educator:

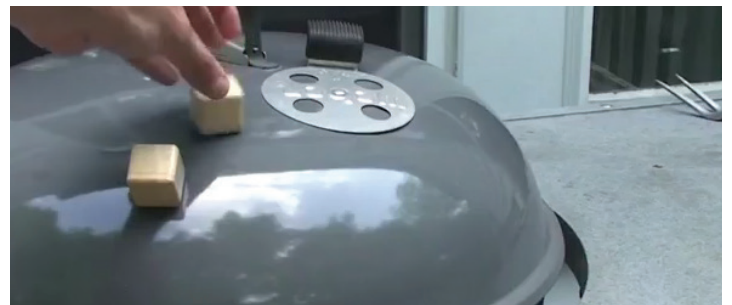
Music provides an essential balance between the left and right hemispheres of the brain. It encourages neurogenesis and neuroplasticity, and helps to develop individuals as whole, by encouraging social and emotional growth. A well structured music program blends visual, auditory & kinesthetic objectives.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

This activity encourages creativity through song, children learn rhythm and how to keep a beat while working together to create a song with Tegu Blocks. The children will experiment with taking turns, sound definition, performance and rule following. The experience gained through this activity will help foster positive social and behavioral patterns in the children, and who knows, maybe you'll discover a mini Mozart.

SUBJECTS:

- Music & Art
- STEM
- Tone
- Rhythm
- Sound
- Problem Solving
- Voice
- Creativity



Check out this Tegu link on "dropping the beat"
<http://bit.ly/2mW8Ou6>



TELL YOUR STORY

Activity Sheet

v.04

INTRODUCTION:

Storytelling helps children bring their imaginations to life, it enhances their visual-spatial awareness which in turn helps reading and writing comprehension. For a child building their world gives them confidence to communicate and develop their language skills. Building allows children to explore pretend play, teamwork and cooperation all of which help them develop social skills.

ELEMENTS:

- Asking Questions
- Curiosity
- Imagination
- Problem Solving
- Creativity
- Character Building
- Personality
- Story Telling
- Communication

ACTIVITY:

Have the children build together or individually creating any structure/theme or idea they may have.

Can they draw out an idea before they build it?

Can they describe what they have built?

What does the creation mean to them?

Take pictures of the children's creations so that they can look at their great ideas again later! .



Photo courtesy of @adayinfirstgrade

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Dramatic play, imitative play, symbolic play, and pretend play help develop critical literacy skills that children need as they begin to learn to read and write. Encourage your students to add things to their story-building session, can they add street signs to their Tegu Block city? Eyes to their Tegu dragon? Challenge them to think outside the box and create a full picture of the story in their heads.

SUBJECTS:

- Reading & Writing
- Art
- Geometric Shapes
- Patterning
- Spatial Awareness
- Observation
- Language
- Creativity



Photo courtesy of @ChrisHadfieldKC



TOWER BUILDING

Activity Sheet

v.01

INTRODUCTION:

The world's engineers have designed spectacular structures! The Burj Khalifa in Dubai holds the current title as the world's tallest building at over 800 meters tall. In the United States, New York City's One World Trade Center ranks fourth tallest, standing at 541 meters. Use block play to foster the next generation of architects and structural engineers by having your students build Tegu Block towers.

ELEMENTS:

- Measurement
- Shape Recognition
- Relative Size
- Observation
- Spatial Awareness
- Comparing
- Position
- Contrasting
- Direction
- Gravity

ACTIVITY:

Ask children to build a tower using a set number of blocks. Vary the number of blocks based on the child's age and ability. Younger children may only use ten, while kindergarten bound children may be able to count out 30 blocks.

Questions to Ask:

- Are they able to stack the blocks without falling?
- What makes them hold together?
- What do you do when the blocks are not sticking? Can you solve this problem?
- Can you incorporate other building materials?
- Can you add characters and people to make a story?

Bonus:

Have students draw their ideas before they build. Create a plan for the what the structure will look like. Then have them draw their structure again once it is built, how is it different?

You can make it a STEM activity!

Science: Explore the design and construction of a tower through the use of the scientific method.

Technology: Use digital cameras to photograph their free standing towers & document their success.

Engineering: Learn about structure and stability through design and construction of a simple tower.

Math: Explore geometric shapes and patterns as they design and construct the towers.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Cognitive, physical, social and emotional objectives are met with structure building. By working together to build a structure, children learn to work as a team while exploring height and scale with stacking blocks. They will practice shape recognition, balance, critical thinking, patience and persistence while collaborating to create structures similar to those in the world around them.

SUBJECTS:

- Math & Science
- Problem Solving
- STEM
- Design
- Geometric properties
- Creativity
- Patterning
- Spatial Awareness





GET VERTICAL

Activity Sheet

v.03

INTRODUCTION:

Gone are the days when children write on a chalkboard. But, the use of large vertical surfaces such as chalkboards, magnetic surfaces and dry erase boards still helps develop shoulder and elbow stability. Vertical surface play allows children to use bigger arm movements that encourage strength and flexibility. These motions strengthen their joints and muscles and help develop their bilateral coordination.

ELEMENTS:

- Direction (up, down, etc)
- Concentration
- Coordination
- Motor Skills
- Posture
- Perspective
- Creativity

ACTIVITY:

Find a vertical magnetic surface! Anything will do, a chalk board, white board, refrigerator, metal door, the radiator, etc. Let the children stick Tegu Blocks to these vertical surfaces.

Questions to Ask:

- How is building with Tegu different on a vertical surface?
- Is it more fun? Why?
- What can you create that you can't build otherwise?
- Why do you think Tegu Blocks stick to some vertical surfaces and not others?



LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Building vertically requires both hands and challenges children to use their left and right to stabilize objects on a vertical surface. While balancing or holding an object on a vertical surface they are developing proprioception skills. Building vertically usually eliminates distractions and allows a child to focus and maintain visual contact with their creation.

SUBJECTS:

- Math & Science
- STEM
- Geometric properties
- Patterning
- Spatial Awareness
- Problem Solving
- Design
- Creativity



Tegu Blocks are designed to be a conduit to self-directed and open-ended play, so we intentionally do not include instruction manuals or scripts. However, knowing that a little guidance can be an important part of experiencing the wonderful world of open-ended play, here are some fun ideas to help get you started!

SCALE

Kids get 5 minutes to build the tallest structure they can...do your best to make sure it doesn't topple!

DETAIL

Build a _____. Give 3 minutes to build a dog, flower, house, whatever. Wait and see what they come up with. In the mind of the child there are multiple interpretations of said _____!

TELL ME A STORY

Each kid builds what they want and tells a story using the blocks.

FREE FORM

Take 10 minutes to build whatever you want. Tell us what you made and why you made it

TEGU BUILD & STORY GAME

Have a group of kids do a "group build" that is developed one block at a time. Each child takes a turn adding a block and they tell the story as they go.

BACK TO WHERE WE STARTED...

Don't be afraid to simply pile the blocks on the floor and let them have at it. If you have a larger number of children that are playing individually, you may want to try and help allocate a roughly even distribution of blocks based on shape and quantity. But try not to get too hands-on. If you do get involved, this is one activity where it's best to let the kids do the driving. Lastly, don't forget to have FUN!

POCKET POUCH PRISM CHALLENGE

How many different Prism creations can you make in 3 minutes? Use the 49 Creations Easel as a guide or build your own. Compete to see who completes a creation first. For example, 'Find the horse on the sheet and make it. First one done gets XYZ'.

GET VERTICAL

Find a magnetic vertical surface and let the kids use it as an art canvas!

KIDS TAKE OVER YOUR WINDOW

Have the kids "take over your window" and help you build a display in the window (or an area of the store) to be kept up. Don't forget to let them add their signatures to their masterpiece with a creative sign (e.g. by Emily, Josh, Hannah, and Kevin: "The Little Architects").

