

The New York Public Library

A Day of Play

Homemade Blocks

Building with blocks is open-ended and helps children learn how to problem solve, create, and build fine and gross motor skills.

MATERIALS:

- Empty cereal, snack, tissue or any other recycled boxes, paper cups
- Tissue paper, newspaper
- Tape (optional)

HOW TO PLAY:

Use empty boxes, paper cups, or other fun “construction” materials for building.

You can add newspaper or tissue inside boxes and tape the edges for extra strength.

Safety tip: Always supervise your child during play.



LET'S TALK ABOUT IT:

- Encourage your child to build their own creation and explore the materials. Ask your child “what should we make today?”
- Encourage your child to build a tall tower! Ask them how many blocks or cups they think they can stack and then count each together as they stack them as high as they can.
- Expand their vocabulary by using words like “stack” “balance” “tall” and “short”.

