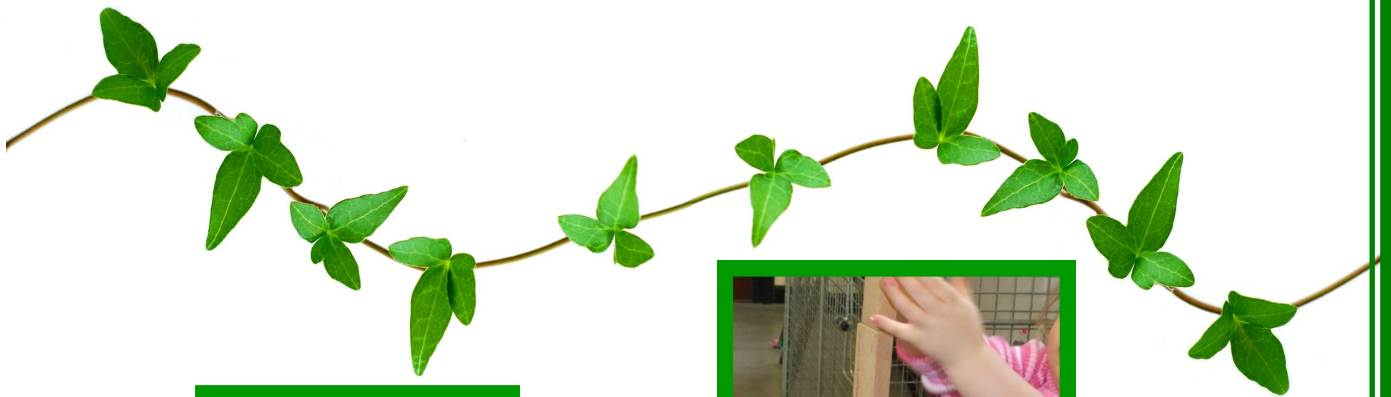




Blocks



STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT IN BLOCK PLAY

During early stages, children may name their structure after completion.

DESCRIPTION OF STAGE

ADULT SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Explores blocks. Not used for construction. May transport blocks around. May use a block to symbolise an object.

Adult - Provides opportunities to explore the blocks within the block area. Sensitive discusses safety and establishes rules.
Resources - Blocks.



Building begins by stacking and/or laying blocks - child makes horizontal and/or vertical rows.

Adult - Models alongside child and offers support if required. Provides additional resources when appropriate.
Resources - Blocks, small world resources, trains etc.



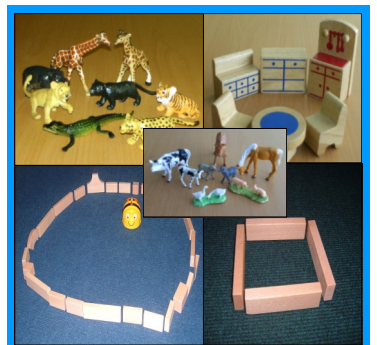
Child makes bridges, placing two blocks with a space between them connected by a third block.

Adult - Sensitive supports play. Provides additional resources when appropriate.
Resources - Blocks, cars, small world resources, fabric etc.



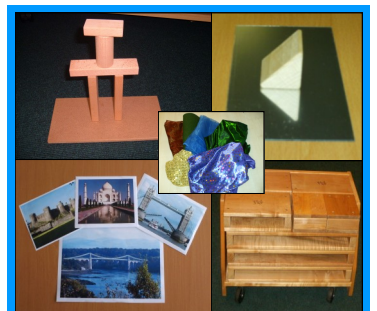
Blocks are placed to create an enclosed space.

Adult - Sensitive supports play. Provides additional resources when appropriate.
Resources - Blocks, small world resources, fabric, controllable toys etc.



Child's creation has elements of pattern and/or symmetry.

Adult - Sensitive supports play. Discusses pattern/symmetry observed in child's work and uses photographs to stimulate and/or reinforce.
Resources - Blocks, safety mirrors, fabric, photographs of relevant structures/buildings and of children's own creations etc.



STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT IN BLOCK PLAY

Child will have mastered the basics of block construction and design before achieving the following stages.

DESCRIPTION OF STAGE

ADULT SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Child creates and plays with a structure that may be named, during or after construction. The name given relates to its function.

Adult - Sensitive supports play and if appropriate discusses the structure using open-ended questions. Provides additional resources when appropriate.
Resources - Blocks, tree blocks, small world resources, photographs, fabric, reference books, recycled and natural materials, controllable toys etc.



Child plans and names in advance a structure with relevant detail which is then created and played with.

Adult - Sensitive supports play. Provides additional resources and organises visits to relevant places when appropriate.
Resources - Blocks, small world resources, photographs, fabric, mark-making resources, reference books, recycled and natural materials, controllable toys etc.

