



Stack High, Line Up Long

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Stack blocks high and line them up long. As the number of blocks changes, help your child notice more, less, full, and empty.

Helps Your Child Grow



Emergent Mathematical Thinking

Comparing block towers and rows gives your child visible experiences of how using more or fewer blocks changes height and length.



Fine Motor

Placing one block carefully on another gives your child practice coordinating what they see with small, controlled hand movements.



What You'll Need



Empty box



Building blocks

What You'll Need

1. Blocks
2. a box for the blocks



Build Together

Take several blocks from the box and build upward with your child. Let them place each block while you pass the next one. Say, “It’s taller,” as the tower grows, then knock it down and invite another build.

Observations

- Uses both hands together to stack several blocks
- Claps happily after knocking down the blocks

Tips

- As you hand over a block, say, “Here is one more.” Repeatedly hearing “one” with a single object helps connect the word with the amount.
- Knocking down a tower gives your child an exciting, repeatable result: one action makes the blocks fall.



Build a Different Tower

After your child builds a tower, make another using a different number of blocks. Compare the two heights and quantities, then knock them down one at a time and listen to the sounds. Build two new towers and notice which one your child chooses first.

Observations

- Shows that they want to knock down the taller block tower first
- Repeatedly pushes down the block tower

Tips

- Point to each tower and compare both quantity and height: "This one has more blocks, so it is taller."



Make a Long Block Train

If your child is finished building upward, arrange the blocks one by one in a long line and let them pass each piece. When the box is empty, point out that there are no blocks left inside and that all the blocks are now in the line.

Observations

- Notices that there are no blocks left in the box and points this out to you
- Continues placing blocks along the block “train”

Tips

- Invite your child to add blocks to the long “train” too.
- When the box is empty and your child looks toward you, spread your hands and say, “No more blocks.”
- Your child does not need to count the exact number yet. Seeing more and less, or some and none, provides an early experience of changing quantities.