

Build-A-Story Towers

Created by Trevor Newton

Introduction to the lesson:

Welcome to your vibrant preschool classroom, where today's lesson promises an exciting adventure with our Build-A-Story Towers activity using the dynamic Big Blue Blocks from Imagination Playground! Picture your little learners eagerly gathering around sets of towering blocks and stacks of numbered story cards, their eyes sparkling with anticipation. In this imaginative journey, we'll guide our students through a playful exploration of math and creativity, cultivating their counting skills while nurturing their storytelling talents. Together, we'll foster collaboration and innovation as we build towers that come alive with characters, settings, and adventures inspired by our colorful cards. So let's dive in and unleash the power of imagination in our classroom with the Build-A-Story Towers activity!

Teacher Tools

Glossary of Terms

For math-related glossary terms:

Counting 1-10: The foundational skill of enumerating numbers from one to ten, crucial for early mathematical development.

Numerical Order: The arrangement of numbers in sequence, from least to greatest or vice versa, which is fundamental for counting and comparing quantities.

Quantity: The amount or number of objects or elements in a set, which is represented by counting and understanding numerical values.

Arithmetic: The branch of mathematics that deals with the properties and manipulation of numbers, including addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, which are built upon the foundation of counting.

Spatial Awareness: The understanding of how objects are positioned in physical space and their relationships to one another, which is developed through activities like counting blocks and building structures.

For storytelling-related glossary terms:

Narrative: A spoken or written account of connected events, characters, or experiences, which forms the basis of storytelling.

Characters: The individuals or entities who participate in a story, each with their own traits, motivations, and roles within the narrative.

Setting: The time and place in which a story occurs, providing context and atmosphere for the events that unfold.

Plot: The sequence of events that make up a story, including the introduction, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution.

Imagination: The ability to form mental images, ideas, or concepts that are not present to the senses, which is essential for creating and experiencing stories.

Materials

- Big Blue Blocks from Imagination Playground
- Numbered story cards (with pictures or simple sentences)
- Blank story cards for students to create their own stories
- Markers or crayons for drawing on blank story cards
- Small toys or objects for storytelling and building (e.g., small balls, toy animals, figurines)
- Optional: Colorful tape or markers for marking off shapes on the floor or mat for shape-building activities
- Optional: Playdough or modeling clay for additional hands-on exploration and building activities

Possible Resources

Scholastic - "Teaching Math in Preschool: A Guide for Parents"

- Website: <https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/articles/teaching-content/teaching-math-preschool/>

Printable for the large number cards

- Website: <https://myboredtoddler.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/My-Bored-Toddler-Counting-Do-a-Dot-Printable.pdf>

Possible Resources

- "Not a Box" by Antoinette Portis
- "The Most Magnificent Thing" by Ashley Spires
- "Iggy Peck, Architect" by Andrea Beaty
- "Rosie Revere, Engineer" by Andrea Beaty
- "The Dot" by Peter H. Reynolds