Independent Play/Work: Block Imitation—Basic Structures

Phase I: Student will learn to create a basic block structure copying a structure built by the teacher.

Phase II: Student will learn to create a basic block structure when provided a picture of the structure as a model to copy.

🎨 Suggested Materials

Phase I

LB6 Language Builder: Blocks

✴ LB6 Language Builder: Blocks

Phase II

LB6 Language Builder: Blocks

✴ All Blocks

✴ Random Structure Cards (LB6 001-100)

📖 **Notes**

Student:

Projected activities for: ___/___/___ to ___/___/___

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

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Independent Play/Work: Block Imitation—Basic Structures

⌕ Lesson Focus

Phase I: Student will learn to create a basic block structure copying a structure built by the teacher.

Phase II: Student will learn to create a basic block structure when provided a picture of the structure as a model to copy.

🗁 Lesson Format

The primary lesson is designed for 1:1 instruction with a teacher or therapist.

⌖ Location

This lesson is intended as an indoor, classroom setup activity in which the teacher and student are seated across from each other at a table.

✐ Preparation

For Phase I, pull all blocks that have at least 1 identical match. You will need to be able to give the student a set of blocks that is exactly the same as the blocks you have. For Phase II, pull all of the blocks and the random-structure cards (LB6 001 - 100).

🗒 Procedures

Phase I

1. Sit in a chair at the table facing the student.
2. Make sure you have the student's attention.
3. Place a block or blocks on the table in a structure.
4. Place corresponding blocks on the table, scattered in front of the student, not in a structure form.
5. Give the instruction, **"***Build this***."**
6. Do not let the student start building until your whole structure is complete.
7. Allow the student to pause 2 to 3 seconds between each block to allow time to process before prompting.
8. Prompt if necessary.
9. Once the student's structure is complete, deliver reinforcement.
10. Record whether the student correctly copied your structure, if you needed to prompt the student, and how you prompted the student. In the notes section, provide details on how many blocks were in the requested structure, how long it took the student to build the structures and any specific difficulty they had while building.
11. Begin again at step 1 with a new structure.

Phase II

1. Sit in a chair at the table facing the student.
2. Make sure you have the student's attention.
3. Place the card with the structure on it and the necessary blocks in front of the student.
4. Give the instruction, **"***Build this***."**
5. Allow the student to pause 2 to 3 seconds between each block to allow time to process before prompting.
6. Prompt if necessary.
7. Once the student's structure is complete, deliver reinforcement.
8. Record whether the student correctly copied the structure in the picture, if you needed to prompt the student, and how you prompted the student. In the notes section, provide details on which structure cards you introduced, how many blocks were in the requested structure, how long it took the student to build the structures and any specific difficulty they had while building.
9. Begin again at step 1 with a new structure.

☑ Prerequisites

Block Imitation—Basic Structures is an intermediate activity. The prerequisites include the following and all lessons which preceded:

- ★ **Lesson 53:** *Stacking Blocks*
- ★ **Lesson 13:** *3D to 2D Matching*

★ Standards

Head Start

- ★ IT-PMP 7

Common Core

- ★ N/A

ABLLS-R

- ★ B9, B12, Z5

VB-Mapp

- ★ MI 9, MI 10, IP 11-M, VPMTS 13-M

🖥 Record Keeping
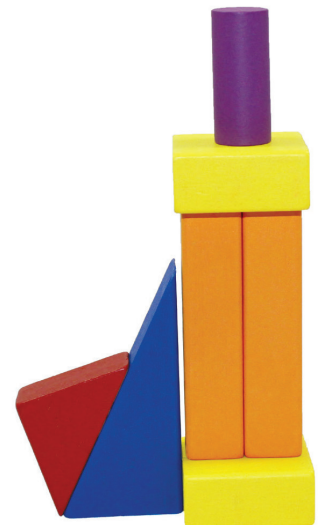
Data Sheet

- ★ *Skills-Based Lessons*

Home Communication Sheet

- ★ *Emerging & Maintaining Skills*

Teacher Tip

If the student is struggling to match the position of your single blocks, you may want to skip to 2 block structures. This is sometimes easier for students to figure out what you want from them.

♬ Lesson Progression

- Start with Phase I, with single blocks only. This is basically a 3D to 3D matching activity, but the student has to place their block in the same position as your block (i.e. laying flat or standing on end).
- Increase the number of blocks in the structure 1 at a time.
- When the student can build 6-8 block structures copying your model structure, introduce Phase II, building block structures from a picture model.
- In Phase II, again start with single blocks, which is a 3D to 2D matching activity with the added step of correct positioning.
- Once the student can accurately place a single block to match the pictures, move onto 2 block structures.
- Increase the number of blocks incrementally in the structure from 2 to 40.
- Once the student can build 5-6 block structures to match the pictures, you can work on *Lesson 64: Block Imitation—Pretend Play* concurrently with this lesson.
- Begin by placing only the blocks that are needed for the structure in front of the student. When the student has become good at building structures, place extra blocks in front of the student, so they will need to realize they are done, even though there are more blocks left.

⊕ Generalization

Once the student has mastered *Block Imitation—Basic Structures:*

- Have the student practice building basic block structures with another staff member.
- Have the student practice building basic block structures in more natural settings, such as during recess or other classroom play time.
- Take pictures with the Language Builder Blocks app of structures made of other materials and have the student build the structures (examples: Legos, different block sets, Lincoln Logs, Tinker Toys, Brix Blocks).
- Communicate progress, commands used, and successful prompts to parents and home staff using the *Emerging & Maintaining Skills Home Communication Sheet,* so parents can try this activity at home or in other environments outside of school.
  » Parents can focus on Phase I at home.
  » Or, you can encourage parents to download the free Language Builder Blocks App for iPad at home. They can use the app to take pictures of structures made from blocks or other building materials they may have at home and practice Phase II in this way.

◎ Whole-Child Lesson Ideas

The LB6 Language Builder: Blocks Set comes with a free iPad app you can download to turn block imitation into a fun game. The app offers hundreds of additional block structure pictures, and you can take pictures of your own structures to add to the collection. Use the block building timer to add a fun challenge and a built-in reward. Then save the student's time to the personalized gallery. The student can work to beat their best time on each structure.

You can download the app by visiting www.stageslearning.com/pages/language-builder-blocks.
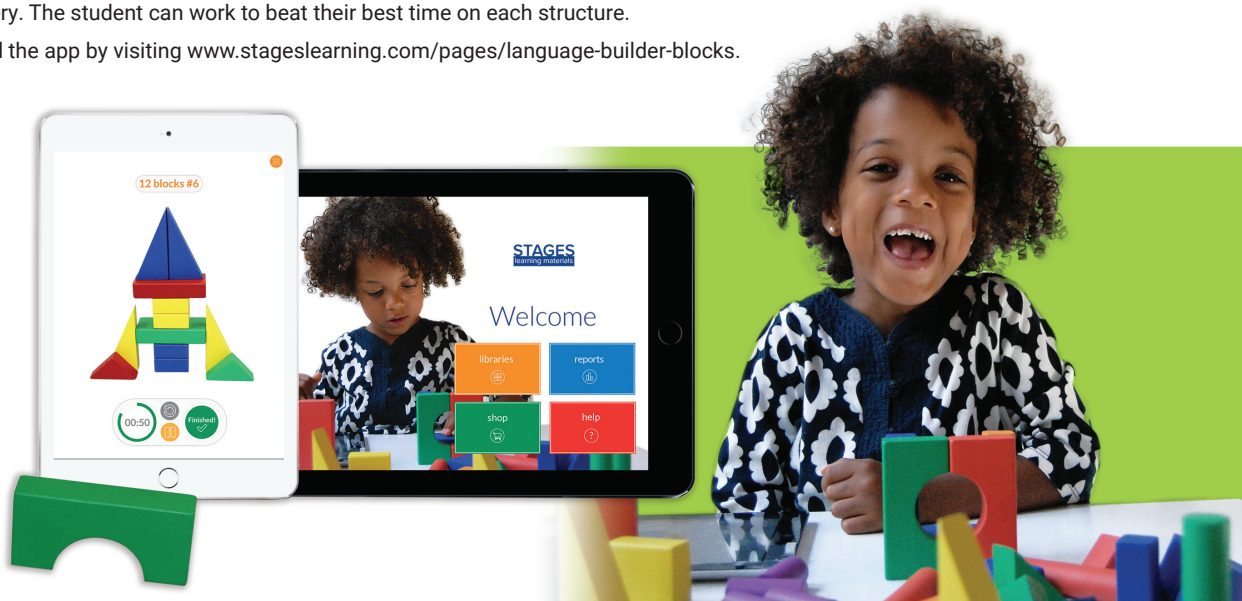
▤ Prompting

Suggested prompt ideas, in general from least to most invasive:

1. Point to the blocks and repeat instruction.
2. Model holding the blocks.
3. Hand the blocks to the student 1 at a time and repeat instruction.
4. Build the structure 1 at a time, handing the student the corresponding block at each step.
5. Hand over hand place the 1st block in the student's hand and place on the table.

➔ Next Steps

Once the student can complete basic block building, move on to:

- ★ **Lesson 64:** *Block Imitation— Pretend Play*

Skills-Based Lessons
DATA SHEET

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STAGES learning materials

LESSON NUMBER

LESSON TITLE

STUDENT'S NAME *DATE*

Prompt Codes				Notes
V	Verbal	**P**	Physical	
PV	Partial Verbal	**PP**	Partial Physical	
M	Model	**G**	Glance	
PM	Partial Model	**L**	Location	

Command:

Desired Response:

Circle + (correct), - (incorrect), NR (no response), or P (prompted) and fill in Prompt Code.

Date: _____ Staff Initials: _____ Notes:
Time Started: _____
Time Finished: _____ % Correct: _____

Trial	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Response	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P
Prompt Code										

Date: _____ Staff Initials: _____ Notes:
Time Started: _____
Time Finished: _____ % Correct: _____

Trial	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Response	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P
Prompt Code										

Date: _____ Staff Initials: _____ Notes:
Time Started: _____
Time Finished: _____ % Correct: _____

Trial	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Response	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P
Prompt Code										

Date: _____ Staff Initials: _____ Notes:
Time Started: _____
Time Finished: _____ % Correct: _____

Trial	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Response	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P	+ — NR P
Prompt Code										