STORIES WITH BRICKS

GRADES PK-4

MATERIALS

- LEGO® or DUPLO® blocks
- Goldilocks and the Three Bears (book or video) or a different story

PLAY

Read or watch Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Children can enact the story and build objects from the story. Ask questions about the story and their playful building.

CREATE

Create a bed using the LEGO bricks, Ask the child to create one as well. Ask, “Are the beds the same? How are they the same? Now let’s make a bed for all the bears.”

OBSERVE

Attend to what child notices as they build the objects. What strategies and tools do they use in their creating? If they don’t have the same pieces, can they substitute pieces that create the same object?

KEY CONCEPTS

Algebra Concept: Equality
When students compare their bed (object) to their teachers’, they are exploring the concept of equality.

Algebra Concepts: Substitution
Substituting bricks for others allows students to see different ways to make the same objects.

Number Sense: Multiplicity
As students build multiple beds or chairs, they are introduced to multiplicative thinking.

QUESTIONS TO ASK

- What did you build from the story?
- Can you make a bed or chair like mine? How else can you make a bed or chair?
- What color is on the top/bottom?
- How many LEGO bricks did you use?
- Is there a LEGO brick you can’t see when you look from the top or the side?

THINGS TO NOTICE

- Child’s ability to observe the bed or chair.
- Child’s interest in copying or making something different.
- What strategy are they using to build?
- Can they make an object that is the same?

RESOURCES

Goldilocks and the Three Bears - English