



Dear parents/guardians,

Thank you for being part of the exciting [FIRST® LEGO® League Discover](#) program and taking the time to support your child's learning throughout the [PLAYMAKERS<sup>SM</sup> season](#).

Challenging children in playful ways helps them to develop:

- Language and Expression – Communicating clearly with others and telling stories in greater detail.
- Problem Solving – Being persistent with a task, setting goals, and reflecting on their solutions.
- Collaboration – Working in a team, sharing materials and ideas, and learning from each other.



By engaging your child in playful STEM tasks, both at school and at home, we hope to ignite their interest in learning and develop key skills for the future. These skills are called habits of learning.



To help you to support your child, we are sending home a Discover More set – containing two sets of six colored LEGO® DUPLO® bricks designed to engage children in playful learning activities. Here are five activities you can do with your child that tie in specifically to the PLAYMAKERS season. You can also find many more Six Bricks activities online from the [LEGO Foundation](#).

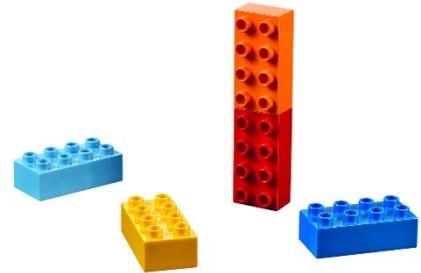
**Thank you again for taking part at home and we hope you enjoy trying out these activities!**

#### ACTIVITY 1: *Playful and Precise!*

Children learn to: move their fingers and hands with precision; persist in the face of difficulty, finding out it can be fun to fail.

Together with your child, take a set of 6 bricks each. Then both of you will make a tower with your own bricks, balancing all their six bricks, short end to short end. Try changing the hand you use or close your eyes. Try building a tall tower with all 12 bricks.

Talk about how you both managed to balance your bricks. What made it easier or harder to build the tower?



#### ACTIVITY 2: *Obstacle Course Designers*



Children learn to: use their imaginations to create representations of real objects; develop the language they use to describe things.

Together with your child, look at pictures of obstacle courses. See this [link](#) for inspiration! Then create the different shapes of that equipment using the 12 bricks. Tell a story about someone playing on the obstacle course together.

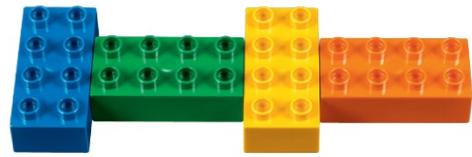
Talk about where the obstacle course is. Who is using it? What are they doing?

Use language related to position (on, under, beside, above, below) while building, and descriptive words (high, hard, swinging, sloping, fun) while talking about what you've built.

### ACTIVITY 3: *Playmaker Patterns*

Children learn to: notice and follow patterns; share and take turns independently.

Together with your child, take a set of 6 bricks each. Your child starts to make a pattern with the bricks. You must copy the pattern. Do this 4-5 times, exploring different patterns. Add spaces to the patterns (like a space between words or symbols on a page) or sounds (taps, claps, and clicks) for each different color brick.



Talk about the different patterns you made. Why is it a pattern? (Use color, position, location, added motion/sound to help describe the pattern).

What else around your house could you make patterns with?

### ACTIVITY 4: *Back-to-Back Players*



Children learn to: use descriptive language; think from another person's perspective.

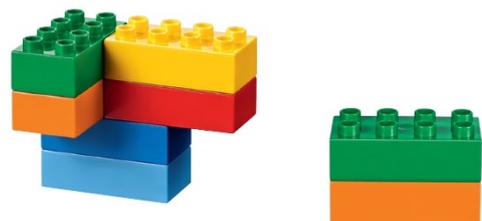
Together with your child, take a set of 6 bricks each. Sit or stand back to back. Your child builds a model using any number of their bricks (suggest starting with 2 or 3). Then explain how to build the same model. You build following their instructions, without looking or asking questions. Then compare and discuss how it went. Afterwards, swap roles.

Talk about what you found tricky. Would it have been easier if you could ask questions? What different ways did you use to describe the model? Did you have to use different words to help the other person?

### ACTIVITY 5: *Memory Makers*

Children learn to: hold information in their memory; keep attention and resist distraction.

Together with your child, take a set of 6 bricks each. You take any two bricks and click them together, one on top of the other covering all the studs. Hold them up for your child to see, then hide them. Then copy the brick sequence. Repeat this activity with 3 bricks, then 4, 5, and 6 bricks.



Talk about what was remembered what had been built. Were any mistakes made? What was learned from this? (To extend this activity, look at things and use visual clues such as color to help them remember).

What other memory games could you play around your house?