

The benefits of construction play

Whether it is blocks, Lego, Duplo, Mobilo, or one of many other construction resources in the service, there are great opportunities for children to learn through construction play. It is important that children have different options to choose their preferences from.



Problem solving & resilience

Many of the children's ideas will not work the first time when trying to construct something, so they need to work their way around the problem and come up with a solution. They will also build resilience by not giving up immediately and working through the issue.



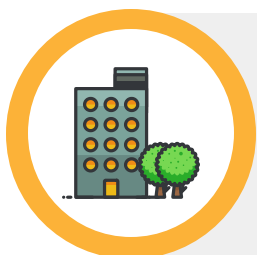
Planning

Planning for construction can be as simple as encouraging children to think about what they are going to build before they start, through to adding paper and drawing materials for children to formally plan out their work, which also invites drawing and thinking ahead before starting.



Engineering

Building with construction materials also supports children to develop their engineering skills as part of STEM. This requires children to think of ways to bring their ideas to life through using the resources provided in ways that will support their buildings.



Representation

Children can use the construction materials to represent things they have seen in the world and transfer this to their play. How they do this will give you an understanding of the children's observation skills and motor skills as they transfer this into their creations.



Properties of materials

Through playing with the resources in the construction area children can also familiarise themselves with colours, shapes, sizes, weights etc. This should be done in a playful way such as asking for 3 green squares for your building, instead of quizzing children about the items as they play.