

Lego* Craft



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“In 1949, Danish carpenter Ole Christiansen created a set of interlocking red and white blocks, the first of what would go on to become Legos. It wasn't until 1958 that the Lego* Company (its name derived from the Danish words for 'play well') patented the small bricks. The genius was in the simplicity of the unassuming blocks, which allowed children to create freely without limits and in nearly endless combinations. (Just six blocks could be combined in 102,981,500 different ways".) Allie Townsend, Time Magazine, 2011.

More than 400 billion Legos have been produced since 1949, which means there are 62 Legos for every one of earth's inhabitants. **“What will you do with your 62 blocks?”**

Here are a few ideas:

- 1) Create a car. It can be as simple or fancy as you want. Did the design come to you as you were building or did you know what you wanted from the very start?
- 2) Create a maze. Make a confusing set of pathways of our Legos and then use a minifigure to find its way through the maze.
- 3) Create your favorite Olympic moment or sport out of Legos.
- 4) Create a mixed media object. Mix your Legos with any of the following items and see what you can come up with. Here are some items to get your creative juices flowing: beads, cardboard, fabric, glue, marbles, plastic, rocks, ice, gems, paper, or wire. Now add some ideas of your own.
- 5) Create a shadow. Build something that you think will create a great shadow. Now take your creation to a sunny spot, inside or outside on a sunny day. Look at the shadow it casts. Move it around until it makes a shadow you like best. Look at the shadow on the ground compared to on the texture of a trunk of a tree. Take a picture of the shadow only.
- 6) Create a creature. A creature is a living organism. It can be a bug, a bird, an animal, a plant, or even something out-of-this-world. Then tell your friends about its habitat... where it lives, what it eats, etc.
- 7) Create a tool. When you are done, tell others what the tool is and what it will be used for.
- 8) Create the tallest tower. This structure must be able to stand alone without anyone supporting it. Measure it and share how tall it is.
- 9) Create a flag. Tell about why you chose this flag, what the colors mean, and where it flies.
- 10) Create spring. Spring is the transition between winter and summer. What does spring mean to you? Create something that reminds you of spring and tell your friends about it.

After you've completed your creations, go around the room and look at what others have created. Then, take a few minutes to share with each other about your creation. Who would have ever known so much fun could come from just a few blocks?



** “No endorsement is intended for specific products nor is criticism meant for products not mentioned.”*