



Starting a LEGO® Club

Excited about starting up a LEGO Club, but don't know where to begin? Here's some helpful advice and tips on how to construct your very own.

- **Work out how frequently** you'd like to run the club – maybe start with one and then see if you'd like to run them monthly.
- **Select a time and day** when you can run your LEGO club – try after school or at a weekend.
- **Find a good area** to run your LEGO club - somewhere with tables and chairs is good. And somewhere the club can be loud.
- **Promote the LEGO club** with a poster and social media as well as via any local event information websites.
- **Ensure to tell everyone** when and where the club is taking place.
- **Choose a theme** - it will help make building easier.
- **Pull together any books** linked to your theme - it is a great way to get children to interact with all books.
- **LEGO bricks need space!** Make sure you have somewhere to store all your LEGO bricks safely between each session.
- **Get a display unit** or clear a shelf so those who attend the club can display their LEGO creations.
- **Lastly, HAVE FUN!** That's what LEGO bricks are for!

WHAT YOU NEED TO START YOUR LEGO CLUB

- An area or space with chairs and tables
- LEGO bricks
- A display shelf or unit (a great way to avoid tears when LEGO builds can't be taken home!)
- DK's LEGO Ideas books (see DK LEGO library list)

TIP

Keep reference-only copies of DK's LEGO books for the Club. LEGO books are so popular, so they may not be able available for your LEGO Club when you need them.





LEGO® Club Session Timing

If you're stuck for ideas on how to run your club, here's a great example for an hour long session.

- **Arriving:** Have the children (and their parents/caregivers), find a seat. Parents may want to help or give them a mindful activity to try – see the LEGO *Build Yourself Happy* activities in this pack.
- **Welcome (5 minutes):** Tell your attendees more about the theme of this week's session.
- **Ensure you tell everyone** at the beginning of the club that they cannot take their LEGO creations home, but that they will be displayed for a set amount of time. Tell them they can bring their friends and family to see and photograph their creation – this will get more people to your library or shop!
- **Main activity (35 Minutes):** This is the time to let the children be creative and build! Wander around and ask the children (and adults!) what they are building. Encourage them to look in the books for ideas and share with others.
- **Gallery/Presentation time (10 Minutes):** If it's a small group try to have the children talk about what they have made. If it's a bit bigger, ask the children at each table to share their builds with one another. Put all the LEGO models on display to encourage children to visit their creations in the week following the Club.
- **Tidy-up time (5 Minutes):** With the session's creations safely out the way, have everyone help pack up the remaining LEGO bricks and put them back in your storage – ready for the next Club.
- **Home time (5 minutes):** Before everyone leaves, remind them of the details of the next session (particularly the parents). Also encourage the children to look at the books based on the session's theme before leaving – so they can learn more about their new favourite subject!

Be flexible and let people build individually or together

Forget the instructions – let those at your LEGO Club get creative!



TIP

Once you run a few sessions, suggest 2 or 3 themes for the children to choose from for your next LEGO club; they can vote for them by raising their hands or putting LEGO bricks in pots!





LEGO® Club Library

Having books to inspire your themes for your LEGO Club and your members is a good idea. If you can keep a reference copy of DK's LEGO books for the Club. LEGO books are so popular, so they may not be available for your LEGO Club when you need them.

Here's a suggested list of books to have on hand:



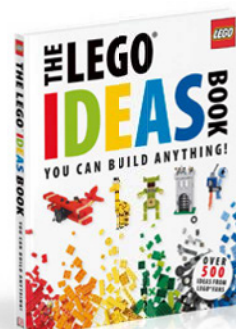
MUST-HAVE BOOKS



LEGO® Awesome Ideas
9780241182987 / £16.99
276 x 229mm / 200pp / HB



LEGO® Play Book
9781409327516 / £16.99
276 x 229mm / 200pp / HB

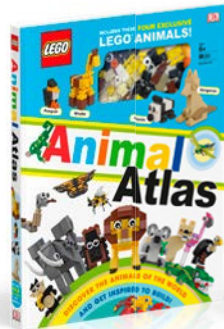


The LEGO® Ideas Book
9781405350679 / £16.99
276 x 229mm / 200pp / HB

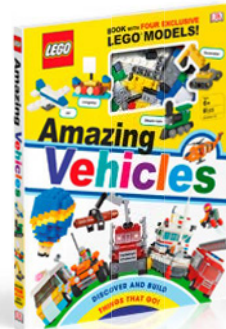


365 Things to Do with LEGO® Bricks
9780241232378 / £16.99
276 x 229mm / 256pp / HB and Timer

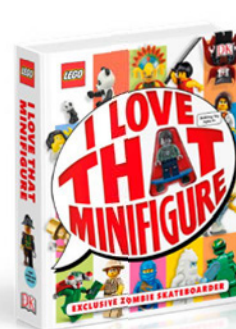
BOOKS WITH BRICKS



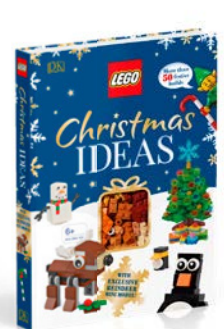
LEGO® Animal Atlas
9780241316573 / £15.99
276 x 216mm / 80pp
HB and Exclusive Bricks



LEGO® Amazing Vehicles
9780241363508 / £15.99
276 x 216mm / 80pp
HB and Exclusive Bricks



LEGO® I Love That Minifigure!
9780241196892 / £14.99
233 x 183mm / 200pp
HB and Exclusive Bricks



LEGO® Christmas Ideas
9780241381717 / £9.99
210 x 148mm / 72pp
HB and Exclusive Bricks

ADULT LEGO BOOKS



LEGO Build Yourself Happy:
The Joy of LEGO play
9780241412091 / £9.99
192 x 148mm / 160pp / HB



Great LEGO® Sets A Visual History
9780241011638 / £25.00
301 x 252mm / 256pp
HB and Exclusive Bricks



LEGO® Architecture The Visual Guide
9781409355724 / £25.00
260 x 260mm / 232pp / HB





DK LEGO® Activity Ideas

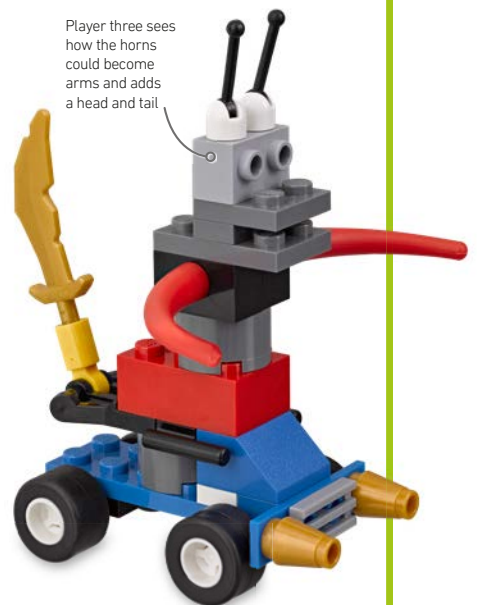
Start a chain of creativity



The first 10 pieces make a simple car



The next player adds another 10 pieces that they grab from the pile!



Player three sees how the horns could become arms and adds a head and tail



HOW TO PLAY

1

Sit around a big pile of LEGO bricks with your friends. Set a timer to 1 minute. Each player selects 10 bricks and starts to build.

2

After 1 minute, each player passes their model to the player on their left. Reset the timer to 1 minute. Each player adds another 10 pieces to the model now in front of them.

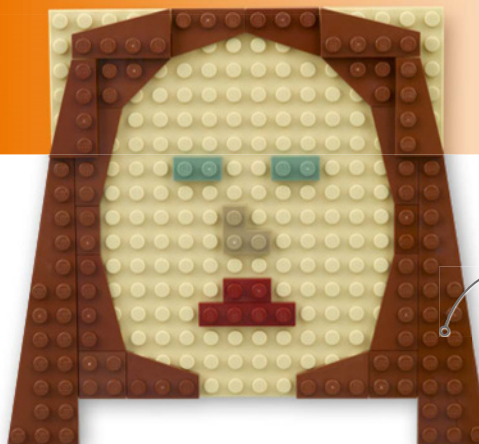
3

Repeat steps 1–2 until everyone has added bricks to all the models. Admire the bizarre models you have created!

Can you be creative under pressure? Play a timed building game with your friends and find out. Watch as your models get stranger and stranger!

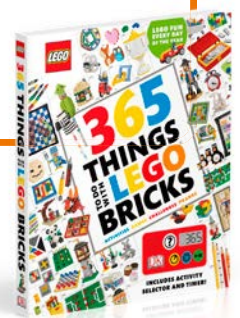
Build a brickie

It takes a second to take a selfie, but can you make a selfie from bricks? Get everyone in the LEGO club to make a LEGO self-portrait or a portrait of someone they know. Then compare your funny faces!



Build a simple brickie with plates of different sizes

Why not be inspired by some art books and styles? Cubism, maybe?!



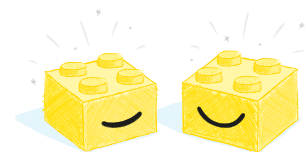


LEGO® Joy for Adults

With the busy pace of modern life, setting aside time for ourselves to relax and be creative is no longer a luxury – it's essential for our health. Why not offer this space to the adults who are coming along to the LEGO Club. Taken from DK's book, *LEGO Build Yourself Happy*, the activities below encourage adults to take a moment for themselves and rediscover the joy of play.

WHAT YOU NEED

- LEGO bricks
- An adult-only space – a separate table to the children!
- Activities (see below) – the adults can follow them while you run the LEGO Club



Close your eyes

LEGO pieces are fun to look at. But what if we don't rely on our visual sense for a little while, and take a new approach to LEGO play?

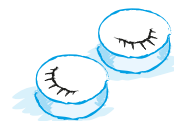
- Make sure you can reach your LEGO pieces.
- Close your eyes.
- Feel around gently in your box of bricks and select one LEGO piece.
- Take another piece and connect the two LEGO elements.
- One by one, add new pieces to your creation.

After you've combined ten to 12 pieces - or just when you feel like it - put your new build down on the table in front of you, take a breath and then open your eyes. Spend a few moments enjoying your creation and admiring its unique and unplannable structure. Maybe we don't have to worry about every last little detail all the time.

Things that make you happy

In our busy lives, we rarely allow ourselves enough time to stop and think about the things that really make us happy. Did you know that visualising happy things will actually boost your mood? And what better way to picture your happy things than with LEGO pieces!

- Start by picturing something that makes you happy - a giraffe, football, ice-cream, a book, or anything else!
- Dive into your brick stash and create the thing that brings a smile to your face.
- It could be as simple as two bricks in a colour that defines happiness for you or a simple build to make you grin.
- It doesn't matter if your build doesn't look exactly (or even anything) like the thing you had in you mind. Just build to be happy.



Content taken from LEGO® *Build Yourself Happy*

