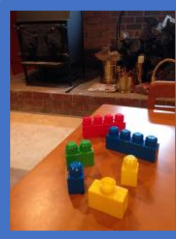




Turn Unused Toys into Learning Games

Recycle unused toys and turn them into fun learning tools to help your child start reading. Plastic construction blocks, bases, and bricks can be used to help children sound out and spell simple three- and four- letter words.

Find some old plastic construction bricks and blocks that no one uses.



Use a permanent marker to put different letters on the blocks. For example, blues blocks with one stud/bump on the top could be consonants. Yellow could be vowels. Blocks with two studs/bumps on the top could be blends since two letters are involved and each letter makes its own sound. Larger yellow pieces with one stud/bump on the top would work for diagraphs since they involve two letters that make one sound.



Take a baseplate and start creating simple words. Change the beginning, middle, and end letters to manipulate the sounds. Once your child is ready for something more advanced...



Add different blends and digraphs.



Even work on base words, suffixes and prefixes.

