

Attribute Sort

Sort LEGO bricks by attributes



ENGAGE

Introduce your class to the lesson by telling them that today they will begin to explore sorting. Define sorting as the action of grouping like objects together. Demonstrate for students how, in our everyday world, we can connect with others by our similarities. Ask the students what similarities they have in common (i.e., hair color, clothing, shoes, etc.) with their peers. Provide the opportunity for students to share their similarities.

EXPLORE

Tell the students that they are going to practice sorting with LEGO bricks. Provide an opportunity for students sort their LEGO bricks/elements in whatever way they would like.

EXPLAIN

When the students have completed their first initial sort, ask questions like:

- How did you sort your bricks?
- How could we categorize the groups you sorted?
- Which group had the largest number of bricks?
- Which group had the least number of bricks?
- How do you know?

ELABORATE

Have students sort their bricks again, but they must sort in a different way this time (i.e., if they sorted by color for the first sort, then they choose another way besides color to sort their bricks). Provide opportunities for students to share out their ideas. For a greater challenge, encourage students to sort their bricks/elements, but they cannot sort by color or shape (these are usually the most common ways to sort). Try to think of some creative ways to sort!

EXTEND

Create an anchor chart as a class about attributes—consider color, shape, size, texture, temperature, length, design, etc.

