

Brick-tionary



What can you create with LEGO bricks?

ENGAGE

Start a quick game of "I Spy" with students. The teacher should select an item somewhere in the classroom and then start the game by reciting "I Spy something red...". Students need to ask yes/no questions to narrow down the red options within the room. Once a student has correctly identified the "red" item, the game can begin again with a new color. After a few rounds of the game, discuss with students how descriptions and/or details of items matter when it comes to accurately identifying something. Today, they are going to work on using LEGO bricks to create detailed models.

EXPLORE

Put students into groups of 4. Provide each student with LEGO bricks. Have students play one round of Brick-tionary. Similar to Pictionary™, students will draw a card from the stack without showing the word to their teammates. Then using bricks, students will build the object while teammates try to guess what it is. Make sure every student gets a turn to pick and draw a card.

EXPLAIN

When they have finished playing Brick-tionary, consider asking questions like:

- Which item did you build?
- What was the most challenging during this build?
- What was the most successful part of this build?
- Why are colors, shapes, and sizes important when building models?

ELABORATE

Further discuss the concept of models with students. A model is a representation of a particular object and/or phenomenon in the world that making it easier to understand. A scientific model could be a diagram or picture, a physical model (e.g., skeleton of the human body), a computer program (e.g., Google Maps), or set of complex mathematics that describes a situation (e.g., Data/Statistics describing weather patterns). Whatever it is, the goal is to make the particular thing you're modeling easier to understand. What kinds of models can we think of? (e.g., Globe, LEGO bricks, Solar System, 3D model of airplane, diagrams of plant parts, diagram of a life cycle of a butterfly, etc.)

EXTEND

To further the learning, have students draw and label an accurate representation of one of the Brick-tionary cards. For example, if they select the tree card, what key details should they include in their drawing? (brown trunk, long branches, green leaves, etc.).



BRICK-TIONARY CARDS

Tree	TV
Cat	Apple
Truck	Chair
Boat	Flower
House	Star