

EduTrend Contents

G4C · CONSTRUCTIVE PLAY · PRIMARY

Count and Build

Build to number and size rules, then check each other's builds by counting and measuring

Ages 5–9	Level: Developing	20 minutes	Pairs · up to 30	Activity 02

Inside: activity at a glance · step-by-step session plan · facilitator notes · 3 pupil worksheets · assessment checklist

ACTIVITY 02 · AT A GLANCE

Count and Build

Pairs draw rule cards, such as “a tower exactly ten blocks tall”, “a wall three blocks long and two blocks high” or “two towers of equal height using different blocks”. They build, then swap with another pair to check by counting and measuring. Pairs explain how they know each build follows the rule.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the session pupils can:

- count accurately;
- compare heights and lengths;
- follow number rules;
- check and explain.

KEY WORDS

count · equal · taller · shorter · length · check

CURRICULUM LINKS

Maths: counting, measuring and comparing.

1	2	3	4	5	6
WARM UP	**EXPLAIN**	**PLAN**	**BUILD**	**TALK**	**CLOSE**
Minds and hands ready	One challenge card	Think before you build	Try, test, change	What would happen if…?	Photo and tidy

Materials (per pair)

- Blocks per pair
- Rule cards
- Rulers or tape measures
- Worksheets 1, 2 and 3

Before the session

- Write rule cards.
- Prepare blocks.
- Model one rule.
- Plan pairs.

SAFETY

Keep builds low and stable.

ACTIVITY 02 · SESSION PLAN

Step by step

Building brings early maths into play: comparing heights and counting pieces.

Time	What happens	Say or ask
0–3 min **Warm up**	Count blocks in a stack.	*"How many?"*
3–5 min **Explain**	Rule cards.	*"How will you check?"*
5–16 min **Build**	Build and swap to check.	*"Does it follow the rule?"*
16–20 min **Talk**	Share checks.	*"How do you know?"*

CHALLENGE CARD (print or copy onto the board)

Build exactly to the rule and prove it by counting or measuring.

ACTIVITY 02 · FACILITATOR NOTES

The constructive play know-how in brief

Counting and comparing during building supports early maths.

Checking each other's builds builds reasoning and fairness.

Common ideas to listen for

- "Taller means more blocks." Block sizes differ.
- "Looking is enough." Measure to check.
- "Equal means the same blocks." Equal can mean same height.

Adapting the activity

Support

Use rules with small numbers.

Stretch

Build two towers of equal height with different numbers of blocks.

WORKSHEET 1

Rule and build

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Record your rule.

Build

Rule	Blocks used	Checked?

WORKSHEET 2

Measuring

Record heights.

Heights

Build	Height (cm)

WORKSHEET 3

Reflection

Draw or write.

I knew my build followed the rule because...

FOR THE TEACHER

Assessment checklist

Use during the session. One sheet covers up to eight pupils; copy as needed.

Pupil	Counts accurately	Compares and measures	Explains checks

Suggested codes: W = working towards · E = expected · G = greater depth

ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY

Count and Build is a sample activity from the EduTrend Contents G4C Constructive Play programme (primary, level: developing). Every activity in the programme follows the same format: a practical challenge, a clear session plan, facilitator notes and ready-to-print worksheets, so that teachers, club leaders and parents can run it without extra preparation.

Full 15-, 20- and 32-week programmes are available from EduStore at edutrend.org.

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