



Block People

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Learning areas: respecting self, respecting others

What you need: empty toilet paper tubes or small juice boxes, photos of each child, glue

What you do:

1. Give each child a tube or box. Let the children glue their pictures to the tubes or boxes to create the "blocks." (You might want to take the pictures yourself and take one front shot and one back shot so children can decorate both sides of the block.)
2. Display the blocks and have the children talk about their similarities and differences. You could ask questions like, "How many block people are boys?," "How many block people have curly hair?," "How many block people have straight hair?" and so on. Point out something special about each block person, such as, "This block person has a really nice smile. I love this block person's red hair."
3. Place the block people in the block corner and let the children play with them.

Extensions:

- The children can use their block people during circle time to act out situations that have occurred in the program.
- The children can use their block people to work out problems by using the blocks to say what they might have trouble saying directly.
- The children can make blocks of their family members, or use old magazine pictures to make blocks in a variety of people as they learn about them.
- Make personalized puzzles by gluing pictures of the children to cardboard and then cutting them in to puzzle shapes.
- Read the following book to your children: *Just Because I Am: A Child's Book of Affirmation* by L.M. Payne (Free Spirit Publishing, 1994).

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