

Block Play

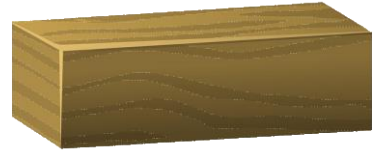
Information for Families



Torryburn Nursery

Growing and Learning Together!
KINDNESS FUN PLAY

What is a 'Unit Block'?

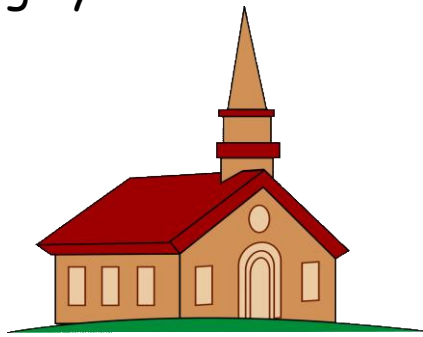


- * Unit blocks are a construction toy made from solid wood.
- * Unit blocks fit together neatly to form geometric patterns.
- * The 'unit' has very special dimensions.
- * The length of a unit is exactly twice the width.
- * The width is exactly twice the thickness.
- * All other blocks are multiples and divisions of the 'unit'.



You can help your child by showing an interest in their Block Play and asking them what they have built.

Talk to them about different types of buildings you see around the village.



What do children learn from 'block play'?

Blocks are perhaps the best example of 'unstructured' toys. This kind of play is important because;

- * It allows the children to exercise their imagination.
- * It allows children to demonstrate creativity and self-expression.
- * It allows children to design and create detailed and elaborate constructions.
- * It allows children to explore mathematical concepts.
- * It allows children to develop mathematical vocabulary.
- * It allows children to develop problem solving skills.



Block City

What are you able to build with blocks?
Castles and palaces, temples and docks
Rain may keep raining and others go roam
But I can be happy and building at home



Let the sofa be mountains, the carpet the sea
There I'll establish a city for me
A Kirk and a mill and a palace beside
And a harbour as well where my vessel may ride

Great is the palace with pillar and wall
A sort of a tower on top of it all
And steps coming down in an orderly way
To where my toy vessels lie safe in the bay

This one is sailing and that one is moored
Hark to the song of the sailors on board
And see on the steps of my palace the Kings



Coming and going with presents and things

Now I have done with it down let it go!

All in a moment the town is laid low

Black upon black lying scattered and free

What is there left of my town by the sea

Yet as I saw it I see it again

The Kirk and the palace the ships and the men

As long as I live and where'er I may be

I'll always remember my town by the sea

Robert Louis Stevenson