

CLOTHESPIN BUILDING

Reasoning Problem-Solving with Tasks Geometry Spatial Sense

Place the clothespins and popsicle sticks on a sturdy surface (e.g., table or floor). Start the structure by clipping a few together. Children will take turns to:

1. Choose a position card.
2. Add a clothespin or a popsicle stick to the structure in the position they drew. For example, if the child draws an “on top” card, they place a popsicle stick or clothespin on top of another part of the structure.

Label Where Things Are in Space

123

“I notice that you have a popsicle stick between two clothespins. Oh, and another popsicle is connected down below!”

Prompt Children to Identify Positions in Space

123

“This card says, ‘on top of.’ You need to add a clothespin or popsicle stick on top of another part of our structure. How can you do that?”

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ADAPT

More Support

- ◆ Encourage children to change the game to focus on connecting materials instead of creating full structures (e.g., they can link clothespins and popsicle sticks together in a long line/chain).
- ◆ Provide children with a piece of cardstock to encourage them to attach clothespins around the edges.

More Challenge

- ◆ Introduce number cards to the game so that children have to add a particular number of clothespins or popsicle sticks to their structure in a given position.
- ◆ Add more complicated position word cards, such as “between.”
- ◆ Do not show samples of completed structures to the children; instead, encourage them to explore creatively and independently.