

## "The biggest tower in Townville!"

Collaborative Building with MagnaTiles - 4/26/2017



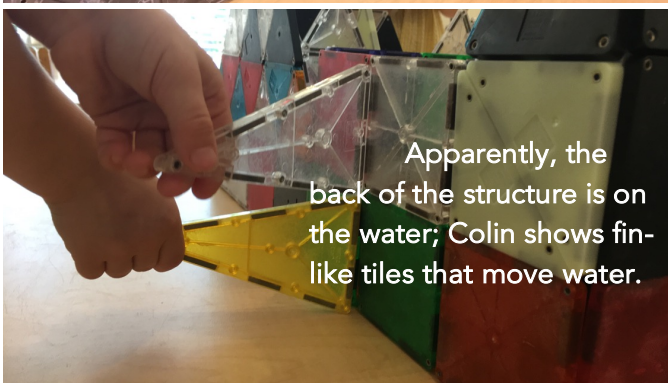
As the children's social skills develop they seem increasingly keen to work together, weaving narrative & game into the process of construction. They are growing physically, too, however, & their work grows with them! Taller, wider, & more intricate structures pop up all over our classroom- all day, every day. It's wonderful...but with more children building bigger structures, we run out of Tiles in record speed! In hopes of provoking this detailed, collaborative building without straining resources, Kalei invited a small group of children into the piazza to work with our Tiles bolstered by the Green Room's black, clear, & glow Tiles.

Cyla, Margaret, Violet, Kahlan, Emerson, & Colin were the primary players, with the latter 5 working together for nearly 45 minutes. They easily agreed to fulfill Kalei's only request, which was for the group to decide upon one thing to build & work together to raise it.

Although it seemed like the group agreed on the general idea of a palace/castle/house-type building, each had a personal variant that wasn't contested by the group a large. They buzzed around each other adding to & altering the structure in harmony while making up songs as they worked. When every last Tile had a home Kalei brought out small animal & people figurines to extend their play further into the socio-dramatic realm.



Margaret shows a ramp.



Apparently, the back of the structure is on the water; Colin shows fin-like tiles that move water.



Emerson focuses on "the deck," which was an open-air area comprised of delicate triangular structures.



Kalei set up the laptop's Photo Booth to record the children's play. In this screenshot, the girls are playing a family game while Colin fills up "a fish tank."