



"We need wood...but we don't have wood so we use blocks."
- Hank



Relaunch of Legos in Conjunction with Our Transition to the New School - 6/29/16

Furniture shipments, blueprints posted throughout the school, & visits to the "New Nest" are guiding our thoughts & play. In the same vein of the train experience from a few weeks back, Kalei relaunched Legos as classroom material. Primed heavily by our context, Lila, Hank, Landon, Kahlan, & Helena engaged in Lego construction with reels of house, bridge, & tunnel building sites projected on the curtain.



Lila & Hank work closely on the exterior walls of their building.



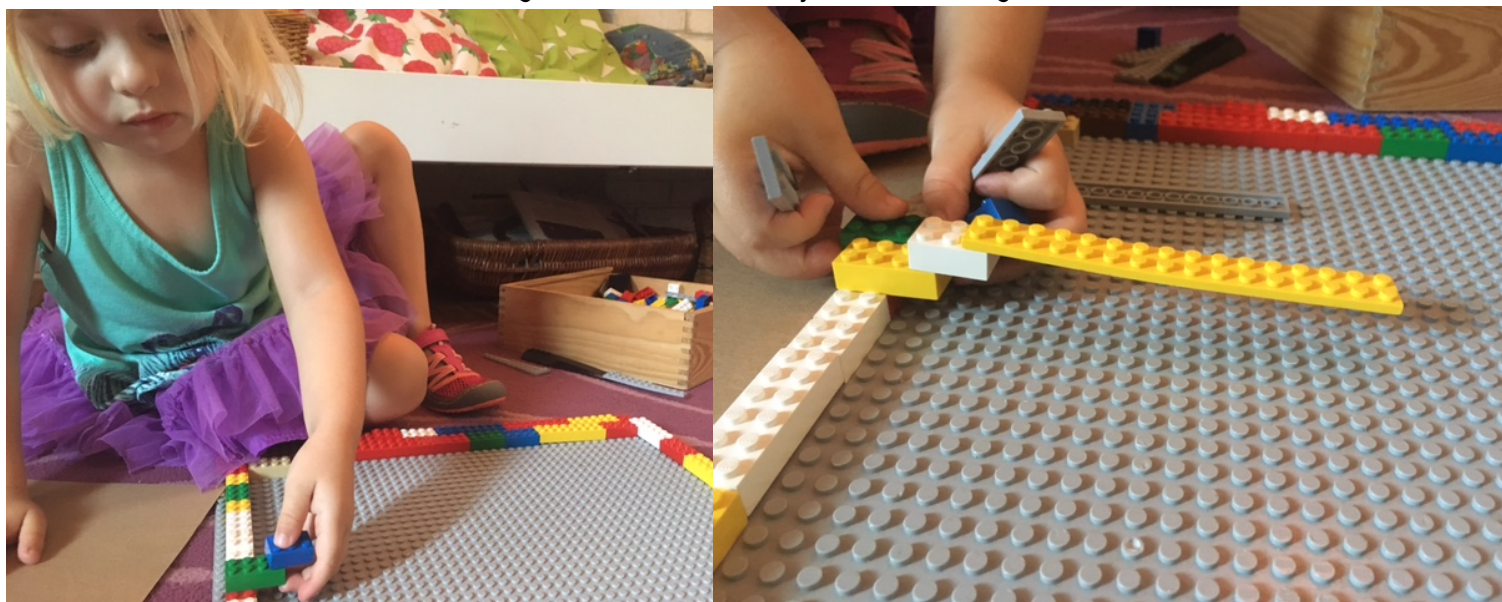
Helena: "That's a sand digger!"

Hank: "You're right, Helena, it IS some kind of sand digger."

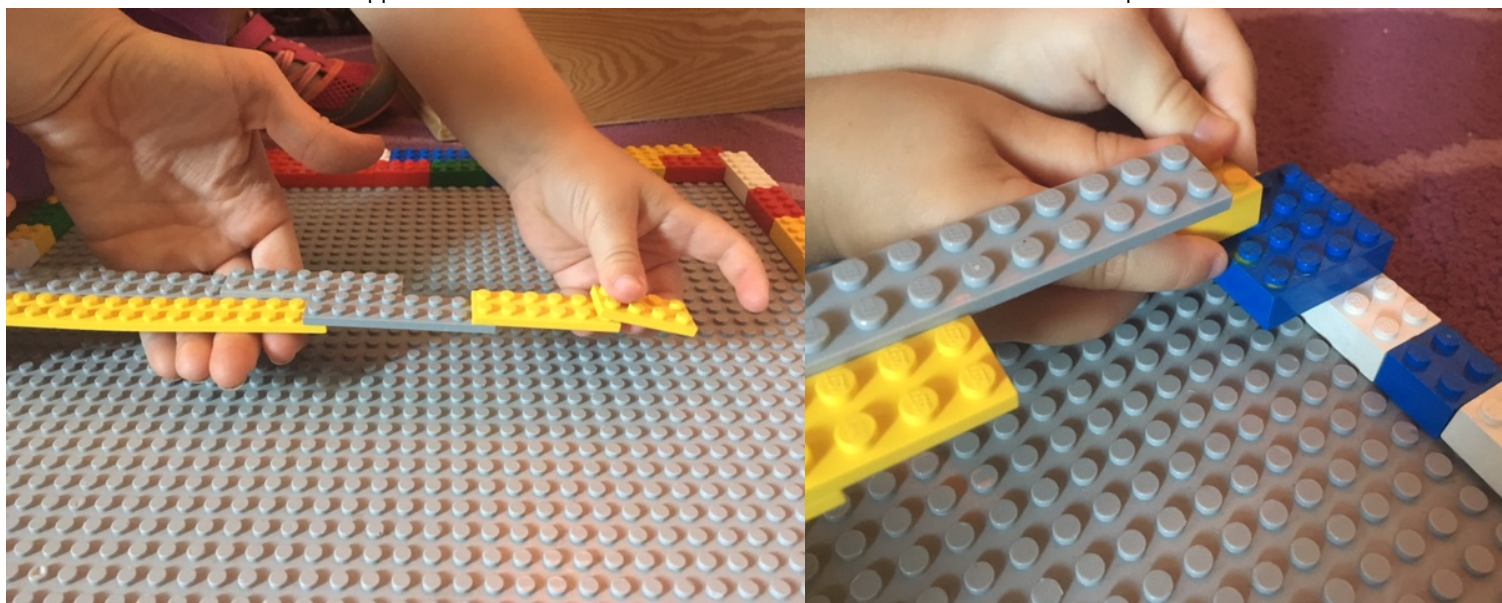


"We're [Kahlan & Landon] making a really high one & you guys can too. A really strong house. It needs lots of things in it." - Kahlan

Lego Relaunch - Ministry: Helena's Bridge



Helena, like all of her peers, began by constructing a border around the lego board. "Look what it is, Kalei, a house! First I had to make the wall, now I have to make the roof." Creating a roof for such a large, low expanse raised my interest. How will Helena navigate this presumably challenging goal? I move closer to her on the rug to observe & support. She begins to build a layer upward, but turns her Lego perpendicular to the wall, leaving empty space below it. This result seems to change her direction, & she adds another Lego upward & outward. I gently inquire "What are you working on? Are you still making a roof?" She seems intrigued by what she has created, but skeptical of this method of roof-creation. I direct her to the projection, which I have changed to the construction of a bridge. Seeing her despondence about the prospect of a roof I asked "what if you created a bridge with what you have already built instead?" She becomes excited again after some observance of the projected reel & begins to add Legos in a similar manner until I consider aloud how longer Legos might work. We find a few but the weight of the bridge bows the structure. "I cannot make bridges, I can only make stairs" she wails. I support the structure while she latches them and invite her to add another piece.



We finally reach the other side but she is unsure of how to get the raised bridge affixed with the lower wall. I encourage her to look at how the bridge started & she remembers her "stairs" successfully but the bridge buckles without support. After a moment of frustration she suggests "how 'bout let's put some under!" The task is tedious & the bridge falls but I assure her that her idea was strong & we ought to try it again another time. When I ask her to reflect on how she made the bridge she tells me "you have to do flat, flat, flat [Legos]."