Block play helps children develop in all domains including emotional, creative, physical, intellectual and social

Progression of block play:

1. Younger children may start out by exploring blocks. Determining how they look, feel and how they might be used.
2. Children three years old may begin to build with blocks even if it is as simple as an enclosure or fence for another toy.
3. Children four and five years old will begin to build more complex structures and may even sort blocks based on their characteristics.

Block play encourages and facilitates a child’s creativity by allowing them to make whatever they imagine.

Block play allows children to start out with simple shapes and by building create a unique and more complicated design.

Development

Children will be able to…

Social

* initiate conversation with peers discussing their structures or buildings.
* choose to participate in a building activity working collaboratively with peers or to be independent when making their own design.

Physical

* develop a variety of grasps when holding blocks including pincer and palmer grasps.
* build strength in arm and hand muscles while picking up and moving blocks.
* Better their hand eye coordination while stacking and balancing blocks.
* Improve fine and gross motor function depending on block sizes

Emotional

* feel proud of what they have accomplished while building
* be satisfied with their play process
* show excitement while creating a unique structure

Intellectual

* understand concepts related to building such as balance and stability
* link what they have created to everyday experiences and recall experiences related to building.
* concentrate on their process