



## Benefits

- When you use these stacking blocks and books with your child, age 2 and older, you encourage reading, writing, and learning early concepts.
- Children love stacking and nesting blocks. The play and matching element of this learning set engages children and holds their attention, as well as promotes fine motor skills.
- This set teaches colors, shapes, and opposites as well as other skills like matching, sequencing, labeling objects, rhyming, attention to details, visual figure ground, listening skills and size concepts.
- Encourage and enjoy your child's sense of discovery. When you playfully assist in your child's learning, education is fun—a lesson that lasts a lifetime!

## Activities

- Help your child stack the blocks, matching one side together to complete a sequence and/or image. There are four vertical combinations, and one horizontal.
- Read each book together, pointing to words as you sound them out and pointing to the image that represents the word. Explain that pictures represent objects, and so do words!
- When teaching shapes, have your child try to draw the shape. Show your child how to draw that shape slowly so that he or she can imitate you. Encourage him or her to trace, or use a stencil to help even more (drawing shapes is usually easier than drawing letters).
  - Draw the same shape with different colors or draw a certain number of shapes.
  - Try drawing the shapes with crayon, pencil, paint, or in the sand.
- Encourage your child to find something of the same color in the room or outside, which will help your child understand even better. Do the same with shapes and with opposites.

## Helpful Hints

- Speak slowly and clearly with an animated voice to keep your child's interest and attention.
- Be sure to turn off the television and radio during learning and playtime so that your child can concentrate on your voice and the activity you are doing together.
- Always follow your child's lead. A child will lose interest when a skill is much too difficult. For example, if writing a number is too tricky for a young child, encourage him or her to name the pictures or find a number that you name from a small group of numbers. Don't show frustration in educational play but slow down and/or try an easier task to maintain your child's willingness to participate in educational games.
- Your patience and enthusiasm encourage the same behavior and positive attitude in your child, building a love of learning from early on.
- Repetition helps children learn.

**Children will love to stack and nest the 5 blocks!**

