

**AUTHOR:**  
Stuart J. Murphy

Jack really likes to build with blocks. He uses his imagination to make a ferryboat, a hotdog stand, and a rocket ship. What would you build with blocks?

**Ages:** 3 - 6 years

**Interest Level:**  
Preschool to First Grade

**ATOS Reading Level:**  
Not Available

**Lexile:** Not Available

**ISBN:** 9780060557751

**Copyright:** 2006

# Jack the Builder

**What will Jack make with a pile of blocks?**

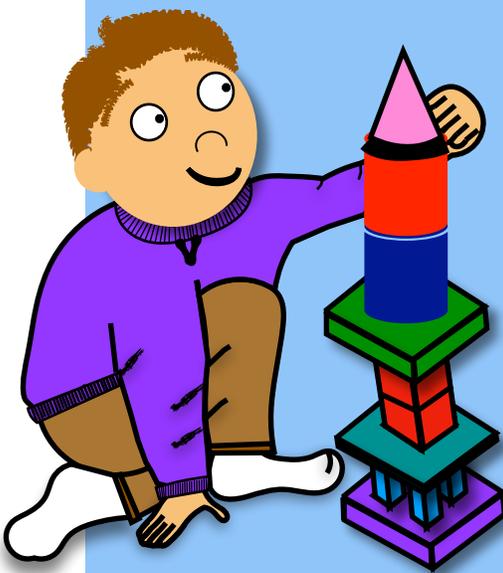
**Topics:** adding, counting on, engineering

**Math Connections:** *Jack the Builder* can be used to encourage children to develop the skill of counting on. Instead of recounting the total number of objects each time another object is added, the child starts counting from the number of objects they have. For example, starting with five blocks and adding three more would sound like “Five, six, seven, eight. There are eight blocks now.” Counting on is an intermediate step in learning addition.

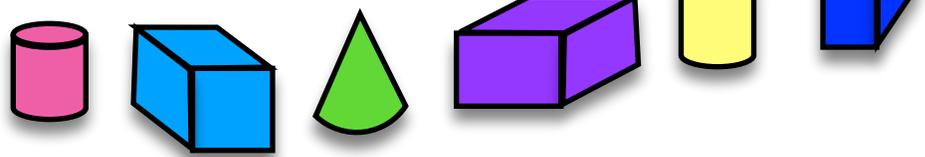
Explore geometric shapes with this book. Identify cubes, rectangular prisms, pyramids, and spheres. Which of these shapes are easiest to stack? Which are more of a challenge? Find everyday objects and describe their shapes. For example, a cereal box might be a rectangular prism and a can of soup may be a cylinder.

## Extension Questions:

1. How many blocks are in Jack’s hot dog stand? Jack started with two blocks and added one more on top, how many does he have now?
2. Is Jack’s rocket ship taller than Jack or shorter than Jack? How can you tell?
3. What would you build with blocks? How many blocks do you think you would need?



<b>Vocabulary for Building Math Concepts</b>	add, big, eight, eleven, fifteen, five, four, fourteen, high, nine, one, seven, seventeen, six, sixteen, tallest, ten, thirteen, three, twelve, two
<b>Vocabulary for Extending Math Concepts</b>	addition, counting on
<b>Vocabulary for Reading Comprehension</b>	ferryboat



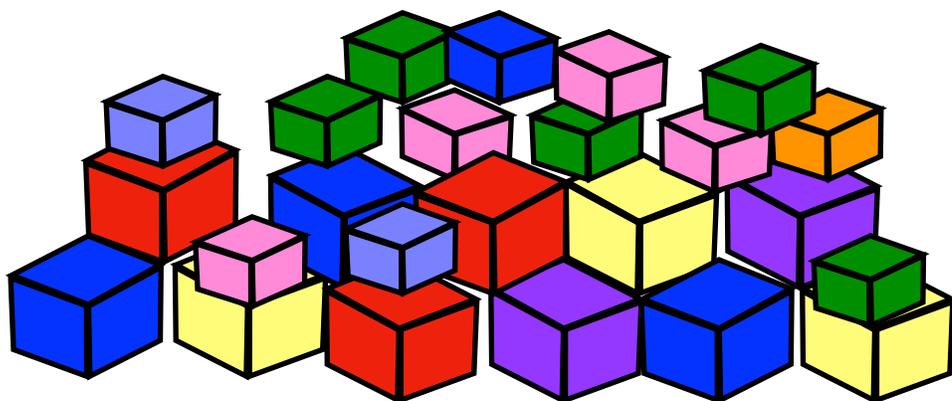
**Early Math Project Resources:**

[Tallest Tower](#) (English)

[La torre más alta](#) (Spanish)

**Online Resources:**

[Math Start Activities for Jack the Builder](#)



**Genre:** Fiction

**Classification:**  
Picture Story Book

**Spanish Title:** Jacobo el constructor will be published in 2020

**Related Books:** *Quack and Count* by Keith Baker; *One Guinea Pig* by Kate Duke

**Find this book at your local library:** <https://www.worldcat.org/title/jack-the-builder/oclc/993317425?referer=br&ht=edition>

Age Level	Related Preschool Foundations and CA State Standards
Preschool/TK	<p><b>Number Sense 1.1</b> Recite numbers in order with increasing accuracy. <b>1.4</b> Count objects, using one-to-one correspondence (one object for each number word) with increasing accuracy. <b>1.5</b> Understand, when counting, that the number name of the last object counted represents the total number of objects in the group (i.e., cardinality).</p> <p><b>Mathematical Reasoning 1.0</b> Children use mathematical thinking to solve problems that arise in their everyday environment.</p>
Kindergarten	<p><b>Counting and Cardinality</b> <a href="#">K.CC.1</a>, <a href="#">K.CC.2</a>, <a href="#">K.CC.3</a> Know number names and the count sequence. <a href="#">K.CC.4</a>, <a href="#">K.CC.5</a> Count to tell the number of objects.</p> <p><b>Number and Operations in Base Ten</b> <a href="#">K.NBT.1</a> Work with numbers 11–19 to gain foundations for place value.</p>
1st Grade	<p><b>Operations and Algebraic Thinking</b> <a href="#">1.OA.1</a> Represent and solve problems involving addition and subtraction. <a href="#">1.OA.5</a> Relate counting to addition and subtraction (e.g., by counting on 2 to add 2).</p>