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This is a story about plastic blocks that help you build anything you want.



## Build It Your Way

Do you like to build things? Cars? Stores? Tall buildings? Then you will like LEGO blocks. These colorful plastic blocks connect to help you make anything you want.

LEGO blocks look like bricks. Some are square. Some are long. They are made of very strong plastic. The bricks snap together. You can stack them very high. They will not fall over. But you can take them apart later.

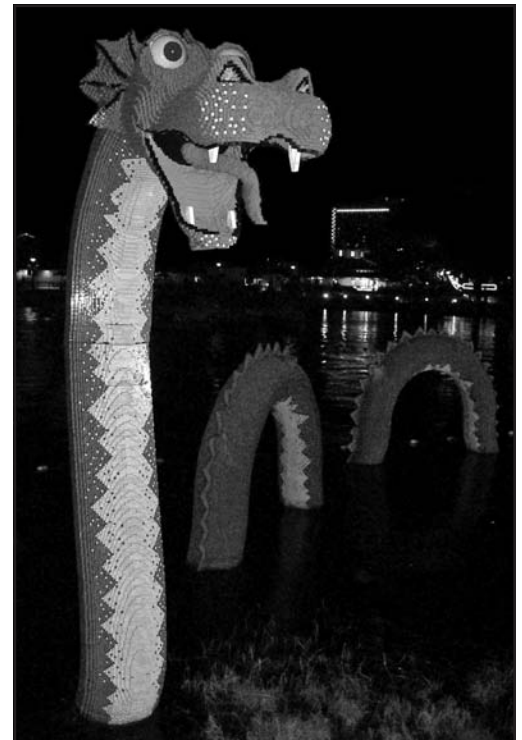
LEGO comes from the words that mean “play well” in Danish. LEGO blocks were first made by Ole Kirk Christiansen in Denmark. He made the plastic blocks more than 60 years ago. The bricks have stayed much the same since then. Old LEGO blocks still fit with new LEGO blocks.

Mr. Christiansen's son saw that LEGO blocks were popular with children. He had new ideas for the blocks. He added straight connecting pieces. The main color for the blocks was red. But now there are LEGO blocks in many different colors.

Today you can get LEGO blocks in different kits. There are kits to make castles. There are kits to make dinosaurs. There are kits to create the Wild West. There are kits to make pirates. There are special kits for movies and TV shows. There are also small LEGO blocks to use for crafts. There are even kits that have small motors in them.

Some people have made very special art out of LEGO blocks. Artists have used thousands of LEGO blocks to make statues. There is a big sea serpent made of LEGO blocks at the Walt Disney World Resort. There are even four LEGOLAND amusement parks around the world.

LEGO blocks have been popular for so long that your parents and grandparents may have played with them!





# Understanding the Story

Here are some questions about the story that you just read. Read each one. Then fill in the circle beside the best answer. If you are not sure, go back and look at the story again.

1. Where were LEGO blocks first made?

- (A) United States
- (B) Denmark
- (C) Holland
- (D) Canada

**Factual**

The story says the blocks “were first made by Ole Kirk Christiansen in Denmark.” So choice B is correct.

2. Why do LEGO blocks make good building blocks?

- (A) They come in many colors.
- (B) They are wood.
- (C) They snap together.
- (D) They are all square.

**Inference**

The blocks snap together, and they won't fall over. That would make them good building blocks. Choice C is correct.

3. Where could you find a big LEGO block sea serpent?

- (A) Denmark
- (B) New York
- (C) the Wild West
- (D) Walt Disney World Resort

**Factual**

The story says, "There is a big sea serpent made of LEGO blocks at the Walt Disney World Resort." Choice D is correct.

4. Why do you think the LEGO company makes kits for TV shows?

- (A) There is a LEGO TV show.
- (B) The TV stars like them.
- (C) People who like the shows will want to buy the kits.
- (D) People are tired of building houses and buildings.

**Critical Reasoning**

You probably know that people like to buy things that go with their favorite TV shows. So choice C is correct.

5. Why do you think LEGO blocks have been popular for so long?

- (A) Children like to build things.
- (B) The blocks come in many colors.
- (C) There are four LEGOLAND amusement parks.
- (D) People like toys from Denmark.

**Critical Reasoning**

You probably know that boys and girls of all ages like to build things. This has not changed over the years. So LEGO blocks have stayed popular. Choice A is correct.

6. When were LEGO blocks invented?

- (A) 10 years ago
- (B) about 40 years ago
- (C) more than 60 years ago
- (D) about 100 years ago

**Factual**

The story says, "He made the plastic blocks more than 60 years ago." Choice C is correct.



# Summing Up



The story tells a lot about the different ways you can use LEGO blocks. You can make buildings. You can make scenes of special places. You can even make TV or movie characters from LEGO blocks kits.



Write some of the ideas from the story in the boxes below. Then add some ideas of your own. Some ideas have been filled in to help you get started.

Building	Place	TV or Movie
House	Park	



# Write About It

Draw a picture of something you would like to build with LEGO blocks. Choose something from your lists on page 10. Then write a story describing your picture.



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SAMPLE