

Lakeshore®

EE290

# Design & Build WATER BLOCKS

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## What's Included

- 29 foam blocks
- Mesh storage bag
- Foam platform

## About the Water Blocks

Children's building creativity is engaged as they design unique structures that float on water. These colorful foam blocks cling together when wet and encourage children to explore cause and effect and balance. Use the blocks with your water table or a tub of water for hours of building enjoyment!



**WARNING: CHOKING HAZARD**

Small parts. Not for children under 3 yrs.

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## Using the Water Blocks

- Fill your water table or a tub with water. Place the foam blocks in the water.
- Bring a small group of children to the water table and show them how the blocks float in the water.
- Demonstrate building a structure on the platform. Show children how the blocks cling together when they are wet. Model building both horizontally and vertically.
- Encourage children to explore the blocks and create structures using the platform, which helps keep the structures sturdy. Then challenge them to build without the platform.
- Once children understand how the blocks work, place them in your water play center for continued exploration.

## Talk About It

As children explore the water blocks, ask the following questions to engage their thinking:

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- *What are you building? Can you describe it to me?*
- *How do you think the blocks cling together? Do some blocks cling together better than others? Why or why not?*
- *If I add a block here, what do you think will happen?*
- *How many blocks do you think the platform can hold before it begins to sink? Let's test it.*

## Build On Their Learning

- **Plan & Build** Give each child a piece of paper and something to draw with. Encourage children to draw a picture of a house using simple shapes like rectangles, squares, and triangles. Once children complete their drawings, challenge them to re-create what they drew using blocks in the water table.
- **Build & Compare** In a small group, encourage children to build a structure of their choice with the foam blocks. Once the structures are complete, ask children to count their blocks. Then have them compare the number of blocks used to build each structure. Ask, *Who used the most blocks? Who used the least?*

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