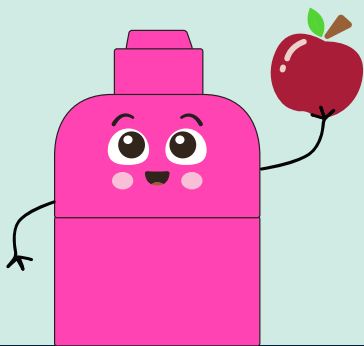
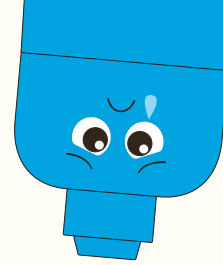
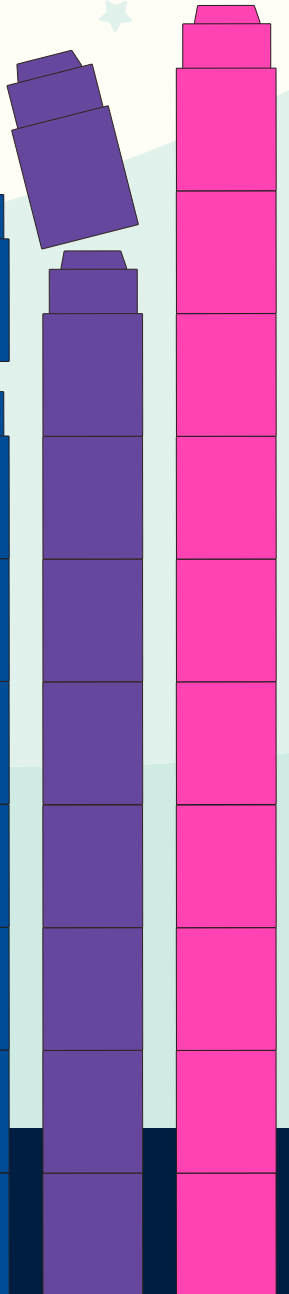
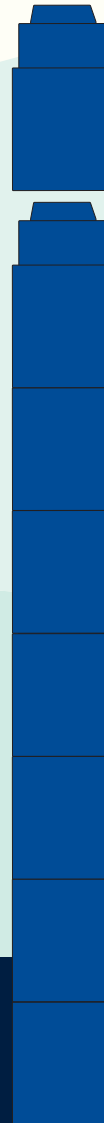
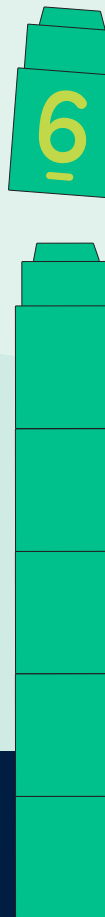
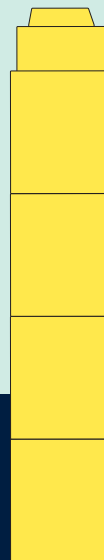


Locbloc®

COUNTING BLOCKS



battat®
EDUCATION





Animal Stack N' Match

Locbloc Counting Blocks Printable Activity Instructions

Learning Goals:

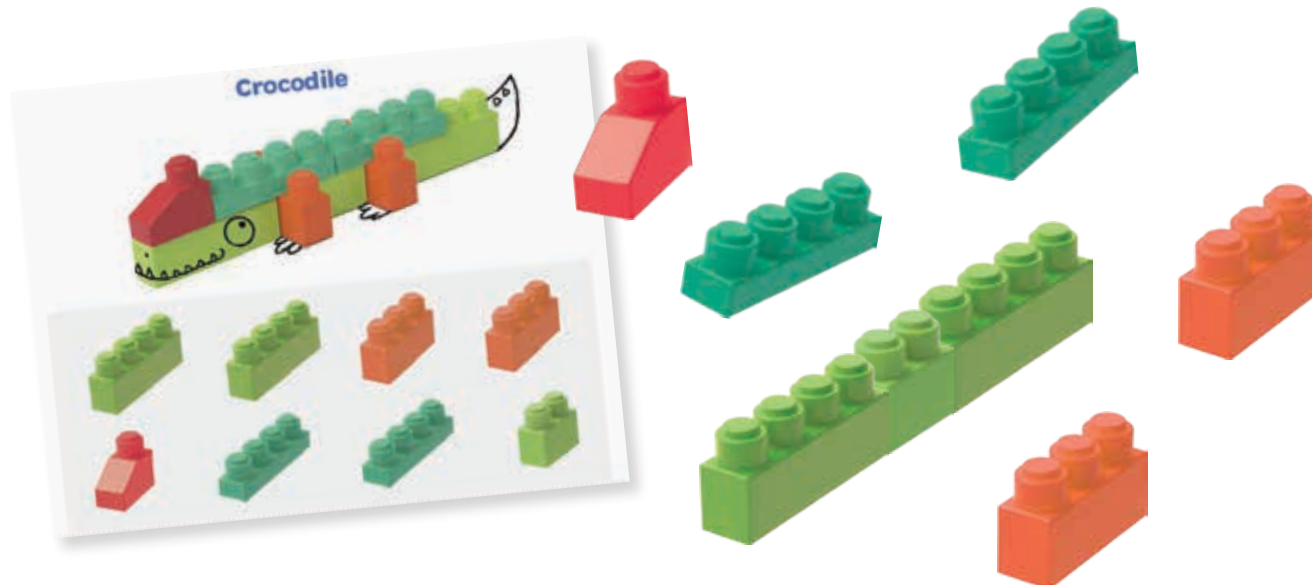
This activity is a fun way for your child to boost their spatial skills. Spatial visualization helps them pick the right pieces, while spatial awareness guides them in placing the blocks correctly to copy the pattern on each card [1]. Engaging in these activities early on can help your child do well in STEAM fields at school [2,3]. For example, these skills can help your child understand and interpret objects seen through microscopes and telescopes. Spatial skills are also crucial for daily tasks like packing, organizing, or navigating [4].

Set Up:

Print out Building Animals pages and place the block pieces nearby.

How to Play:

Pick a Building Animal page and ask your child to guess the name of the animal. Then, have them find the pieces they need and encourage them to build the animal using the picture on the page as a guide.



In sports like soccer, baseball, and basketball, players use spatial awareness to understand formations, pass, and kick accurately. It's like having a built-in GPS on the field!



Emotion Explorers

Locbloc Counting Blocks Printable Activity Instructions

Learning Goals:

This activity is all about helping your child develop emotionally. Emotional skills help your child understand their own emotions, recognize others' emotions, and know how people typically feel in different situations. They also learn to express their emotions in a way that's acceptable and to empathize with others [5,6]. Activities that focus on your child's emotional development help them build stronger relationships with parents, siblings, friends, teachers, and later in life with colleagues and partners.

Encourage your child to freely express all their emotions. With time, they will learn how to share their feelings in a healthy and acceptable way.



Set Up:

Print the Emotion Cards, fold them in half, and tape or glue the back and front together. Keep the blocks nearby, ensuring that the facial expression blocks are separated from the others.

How to Play:

There are various ways to play with Emotion Cards:

1. Pick a card and name the emotion you see (e.g., Angry). Mimic the emotion, share how you feel (e.g., I'm angry), and then ask your child to do the same with you.

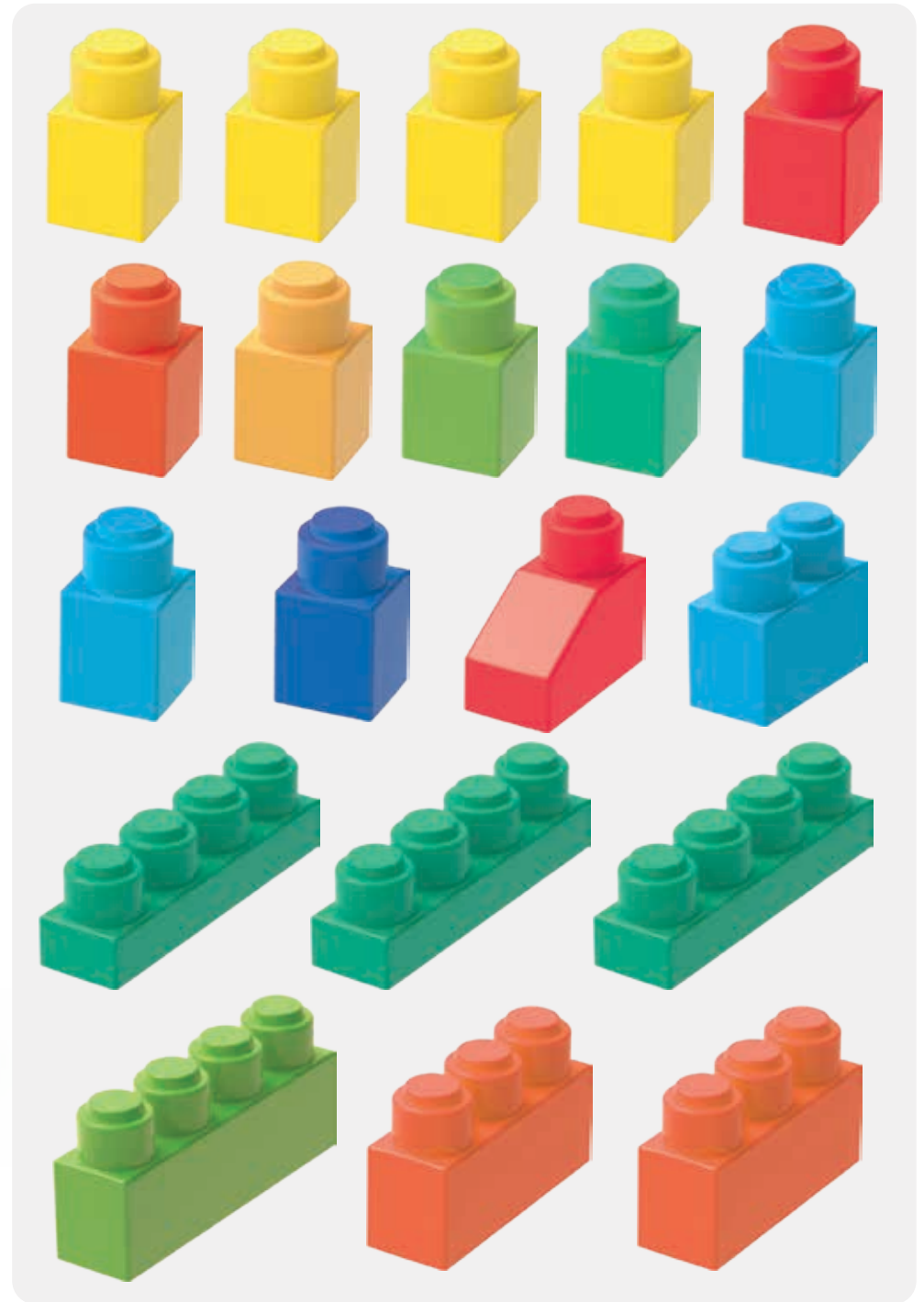
Note 1: Stand in front of a mirror with your child while doing this activity. The visual feedback from the mirror helps your child express the emotion.

Note 2: Use the back of the card to discuss emotions further.

2. Pick a card and name the emotion. Find the matching facial expression block, then get creative and use other blocks to build the character's body. Continue until all cards are played and characters are built.

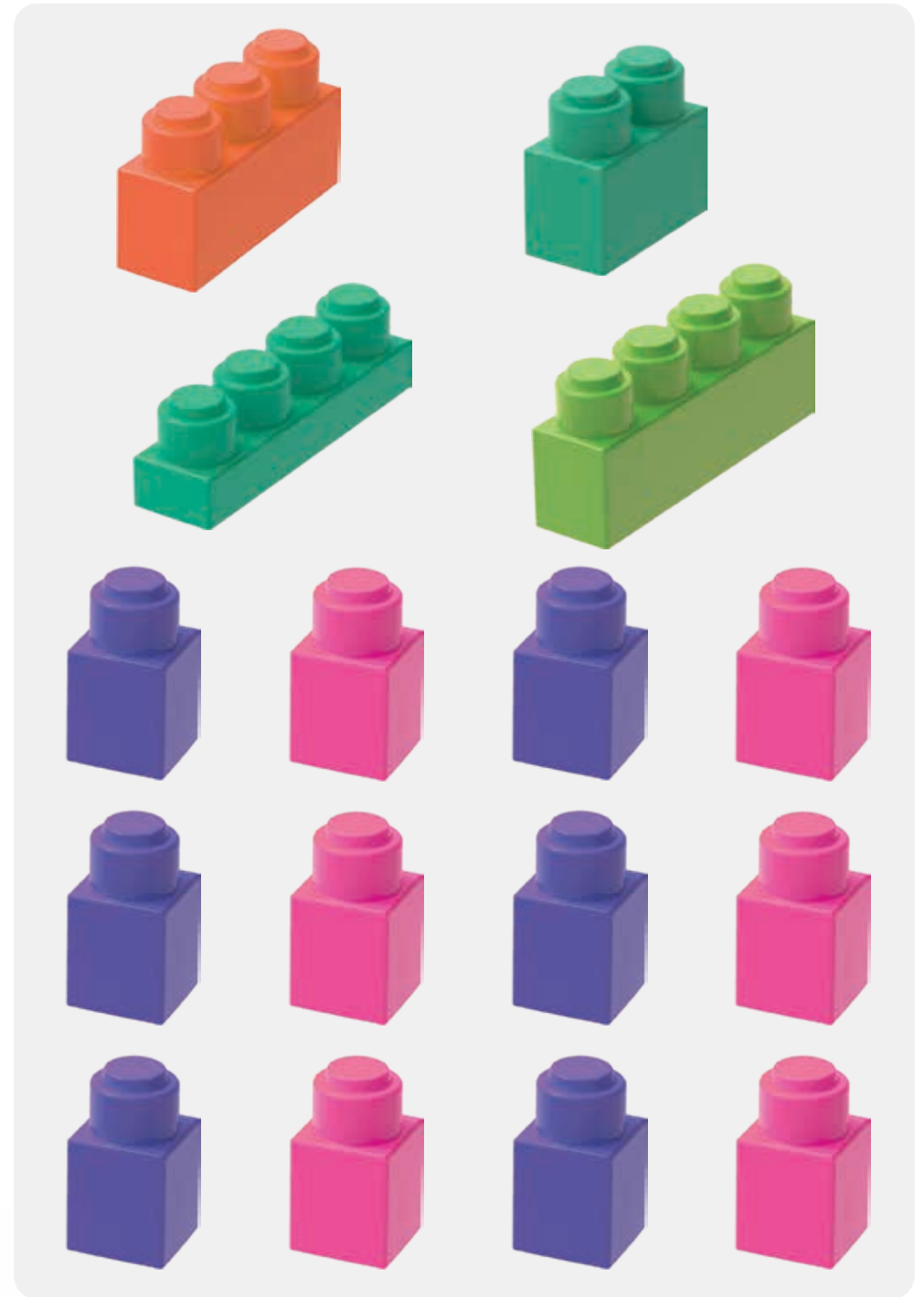
Note: If your child can't answer a question, give them a hint (e.g., ask how they felt when someone took their favorite toy).

Elephant

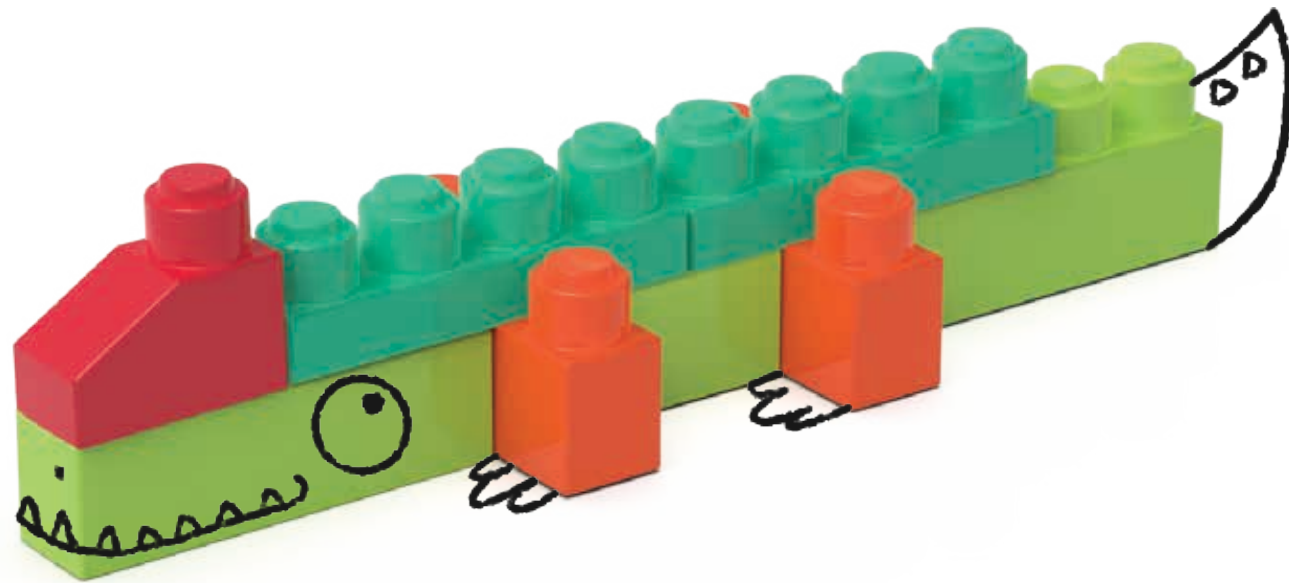


BUILDING ANIMALS

Giraffe

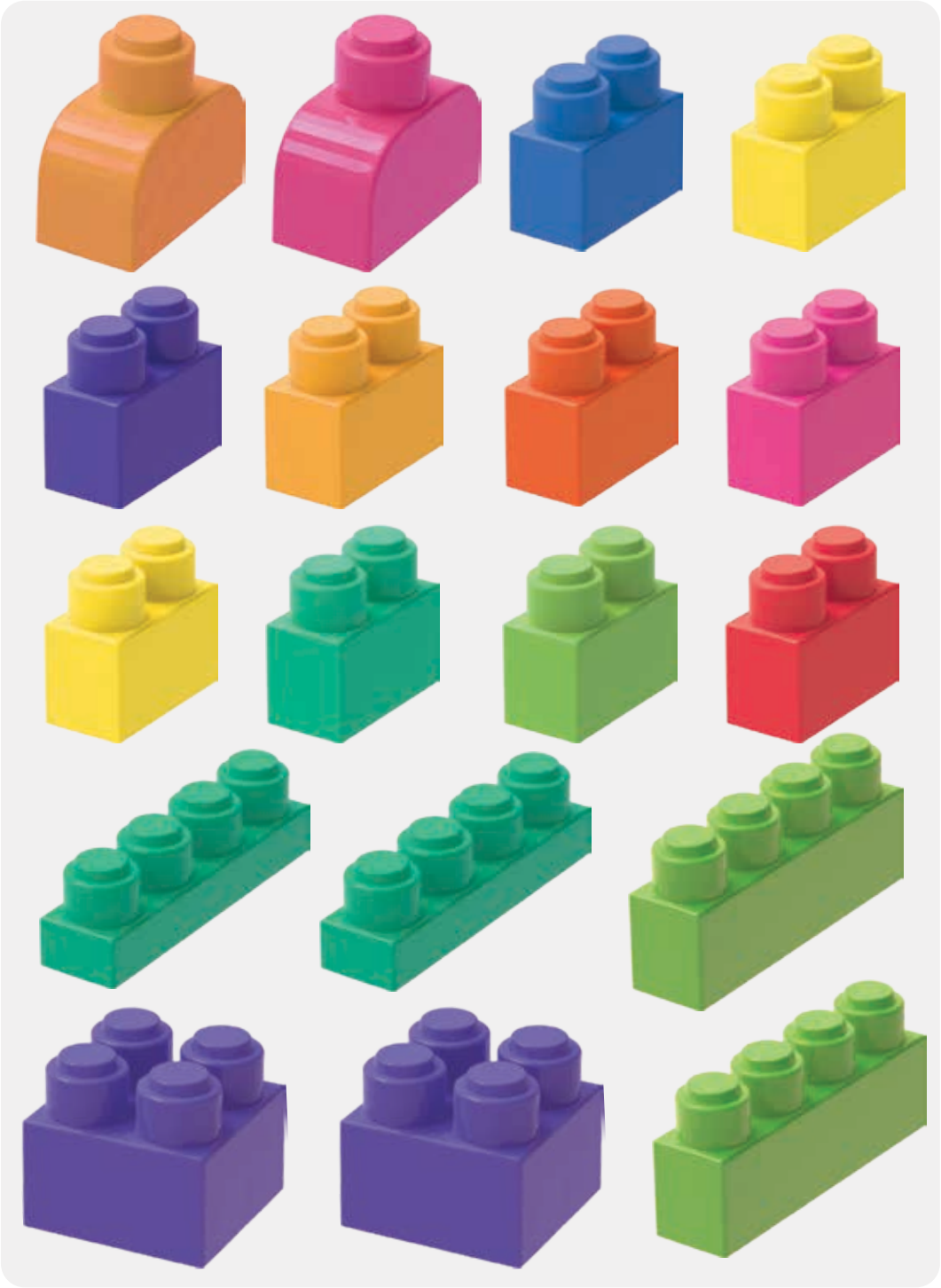


Crocodile



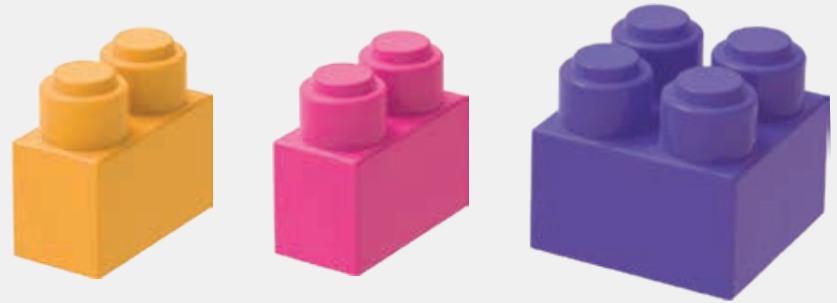
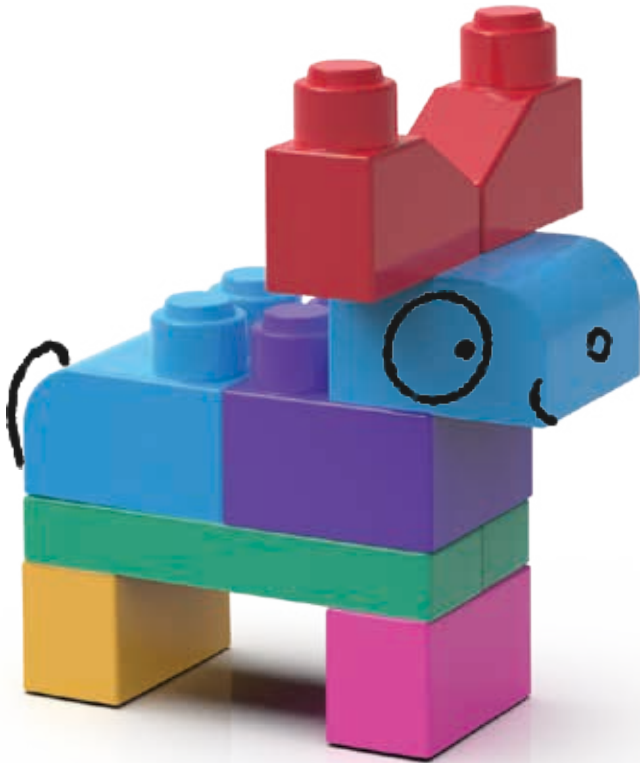
BUILDING ANIMALS

Camel



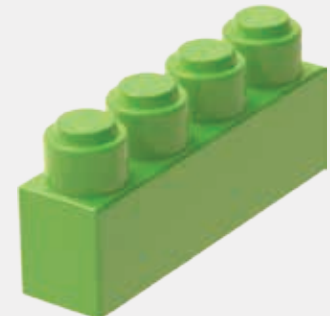
BUILDING ANIMALS

Moose



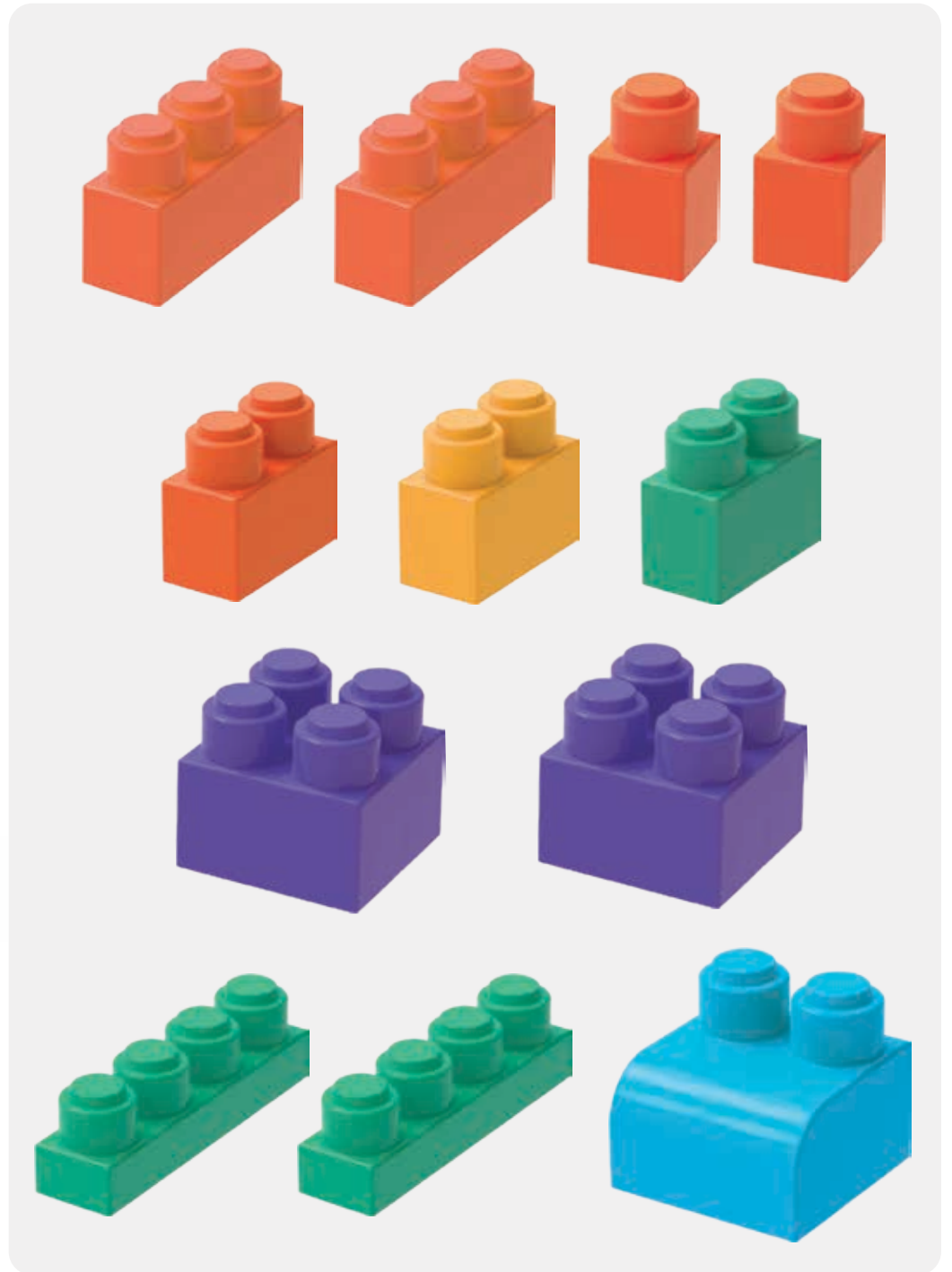
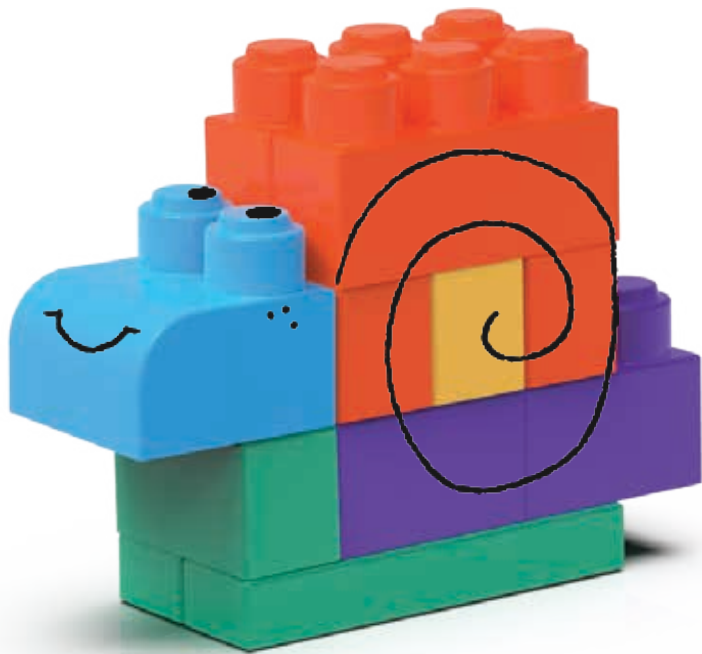
BUILDING ANIMALS

Duck



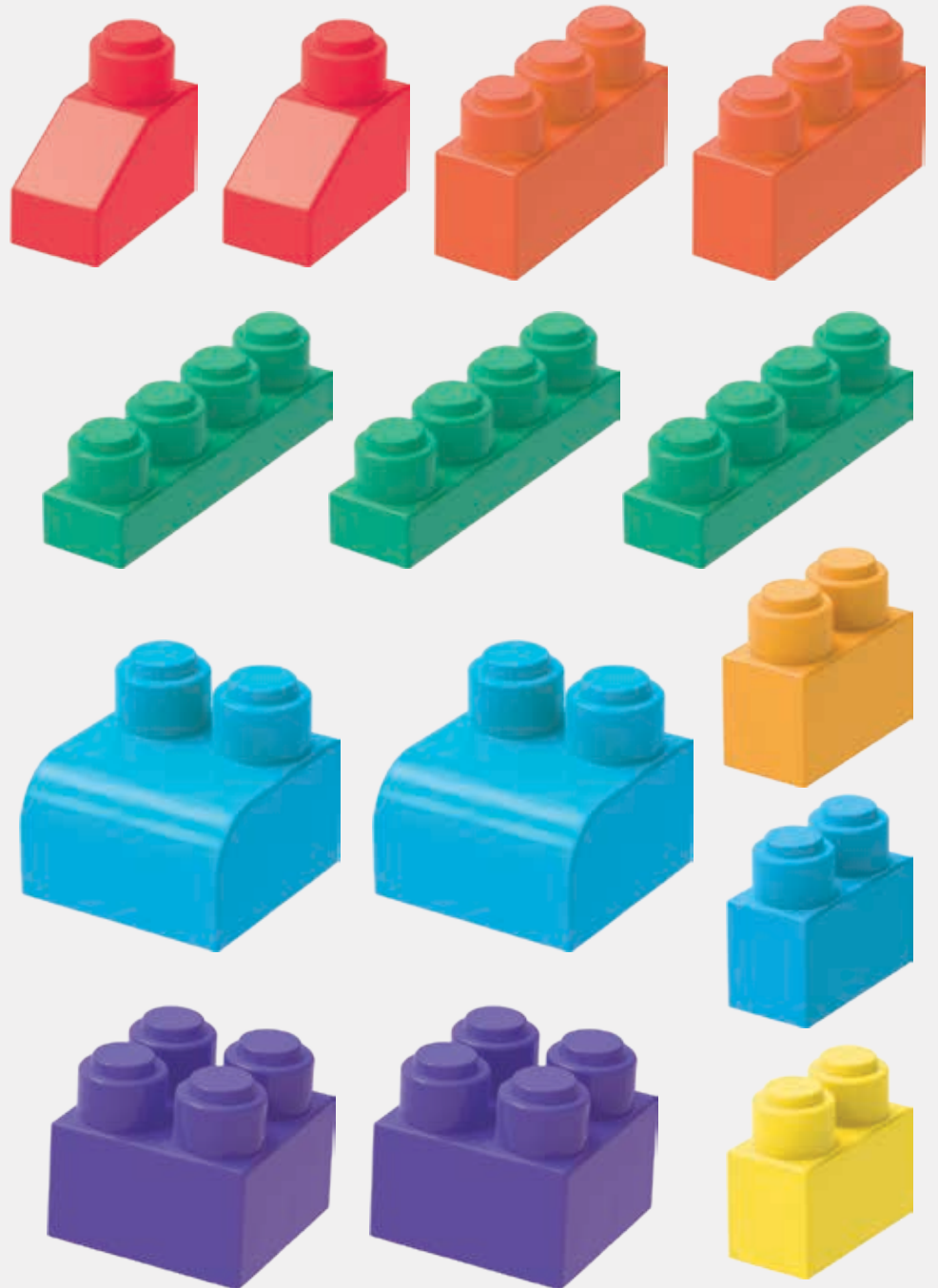
BUILDING ANIMALS

Snail



BUILDING ANIMALS

Elk



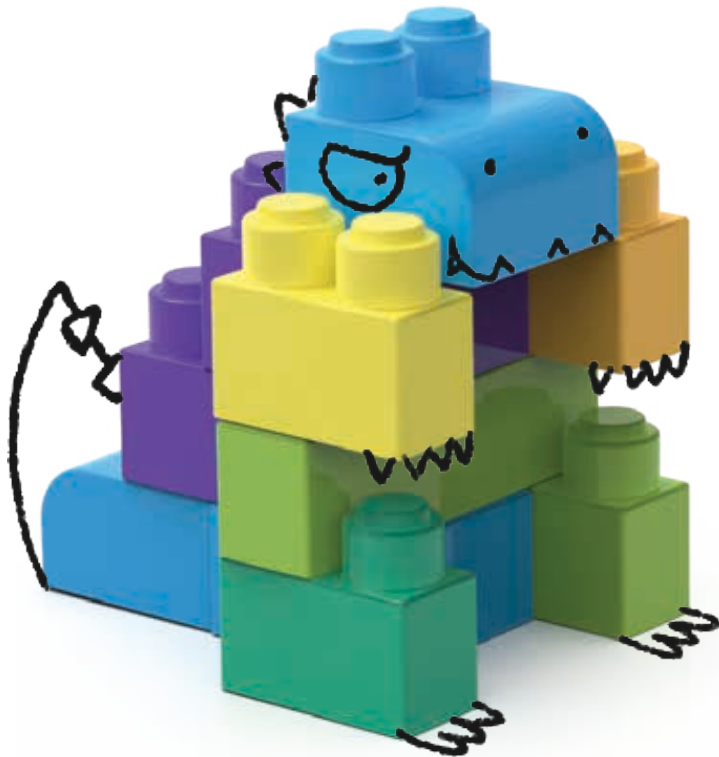
BUILDING ANIMALS

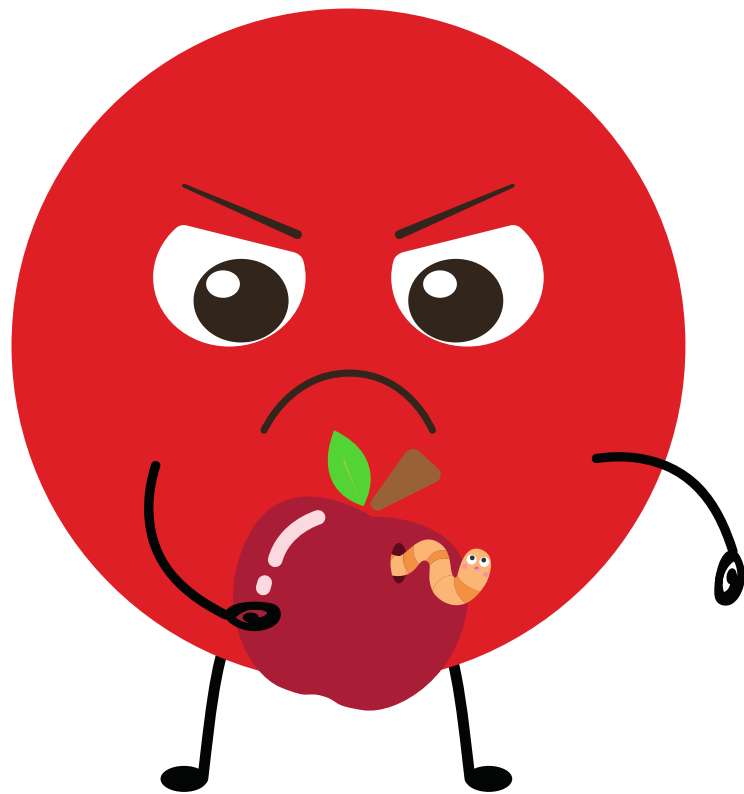
Dinosaur 1



BUILDING ANIMALS

Dinosaur 2



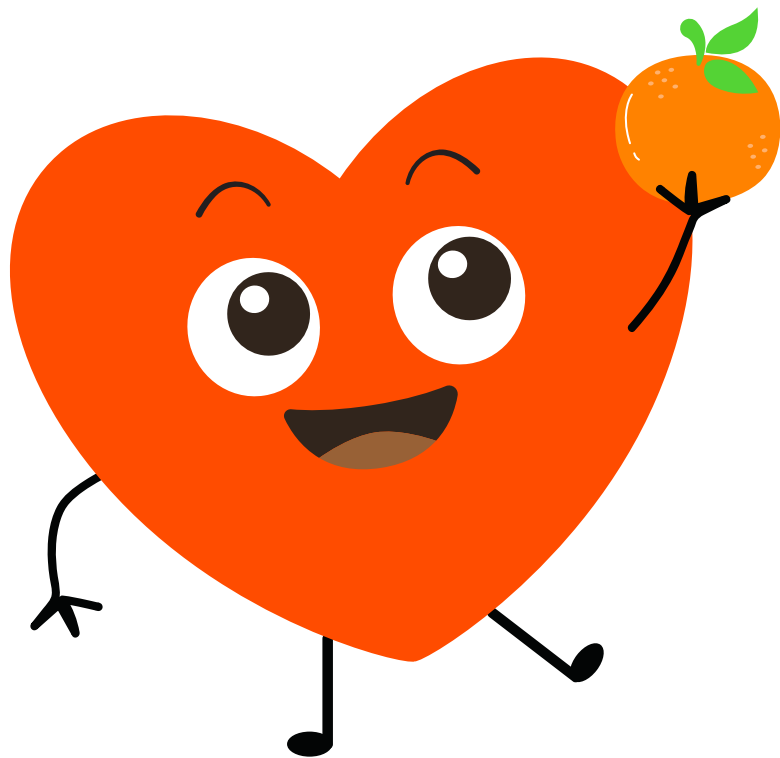


ANGRY

How does the circle
feel?

Is he angry
because the worm is
eating his apple?

Can you show me
your angry face?



HAPPY

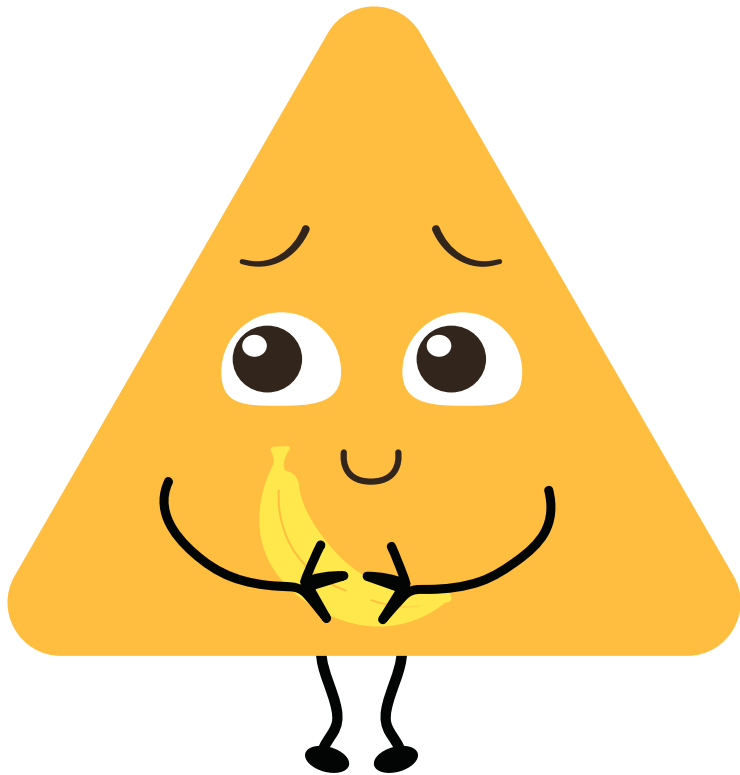
How is our friend
feeling?

•

Can you make a
happy face?

•

What do you do
when you feel
happy?



SHY

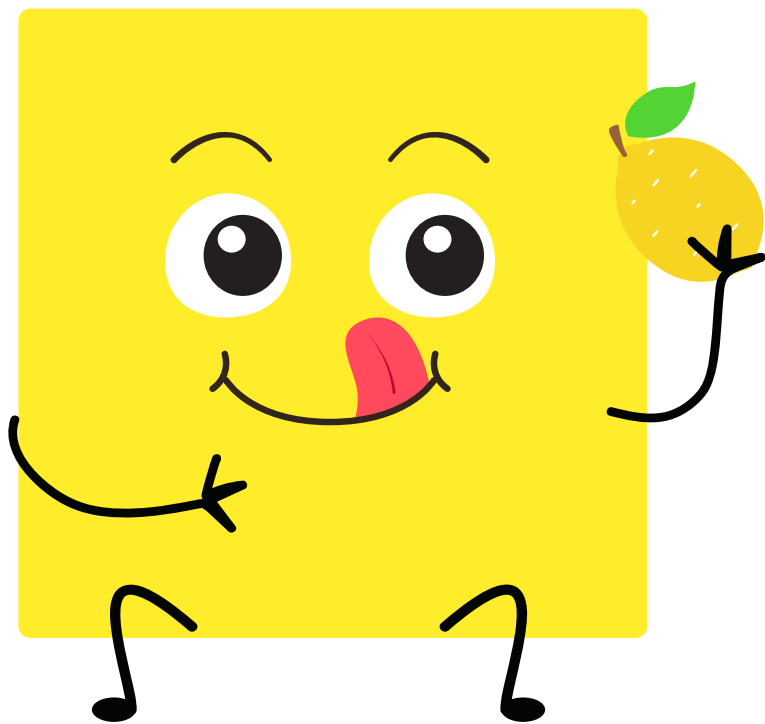
I think this triangle feels shy. What do you think?

•

Why do you think the triangle feels shy?

•

How can we help our shy friend feel more comfortable?



HUNGRY

This square looks hungry. What is she going to eat?

What should you do if you feel hungry?

What is your favorite food to eat when you're hungry?

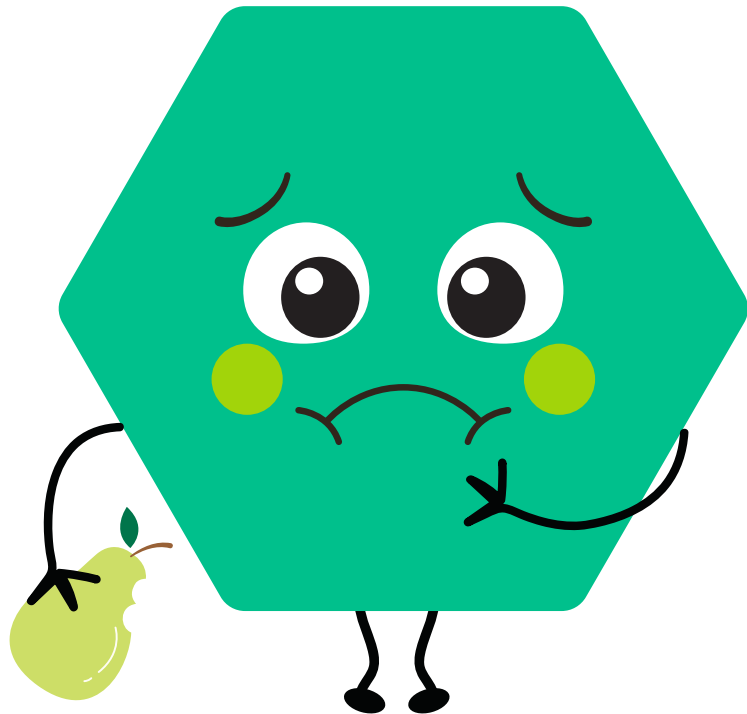


SUPRISED

Look at the green shape's eyes, and mouth. He is surprised.

Can you make a surprised face?

Do you like to be surprised? Why?



SICK

This green shape feels sick. Do you think she ate too many pears?

•
Can you act sick?

•
What helps you feel better when you're sick?

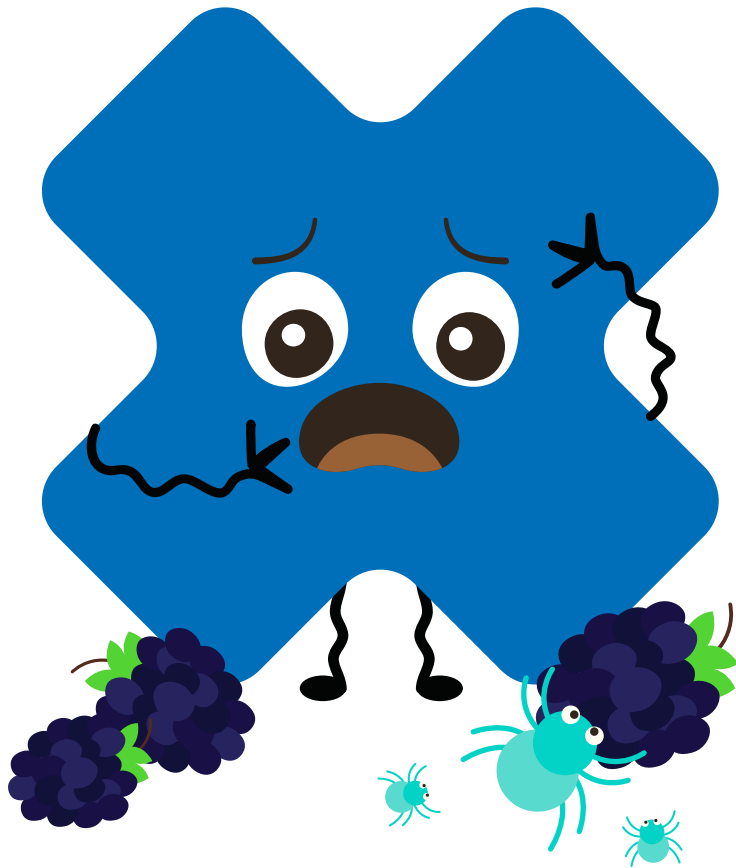


SAD

How is the star feeling? Why?

Can you make a sad face?

What makes you feel better when you're sad? Maybe a hug?

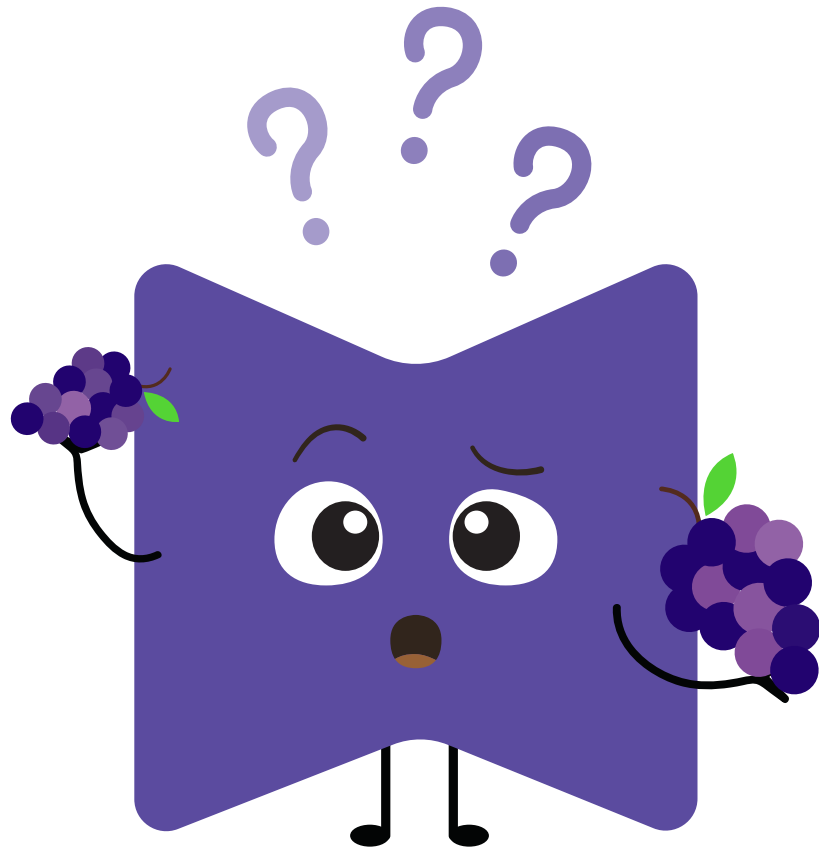


SCARED

Is this blue shape
happy or scared?

Can you show me
your scared face?

What are you
afraid of?



CONFUSED

This purple shape looks confused. Can you make a confused face?

•
Do you get confused if I talk fast?

•
Do you get confused if I talk slowly?



LOVED

Aw! This droplet
feels loved! Is it nice
to feel loved?



I feel loved when you
hug me. When do
you feel loved?



Who makes you feel
loved?

Locbloc Counting Blocks

References

- [1] Legg, T. J. (2020, April). What's Important About Spatial Awareness? Healthline. <https://www.healthline.com/health/spatial-awareness>
- [2] Uttal, D. H., & Cohen, C. A. (2012). Spatial thinking and STEM education: When, why, and how?. In *Psychology of learning and motivation* (Vol. 57, pp. 147-181). Academic Press.
- [3] Gilligan, K. A. (2020, May 8). Make Space: The Importance of Spatial Thinking for Learning Mathematics. *Frontiers*. <https://kids.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/frym.2020.00050>
- [4] Hansel, R.R. (2019, January). Block play and spatial skills It's time to get blocks back into the spotlight! *Community Playthings*. <https://www.communityplaythings.co.uk/learning-library/articles/block-play-and-spatial-skills>
- [5] Faber, A., & Mazlish, E. (2012). *How to talk so kids will listen & listen so kids will talk*. Simon and Schuster.
- [6] Streubel, B., Gunzenhauser, C., Grosse, G., & Saalbach, H. (2020). Emotion-specific vocabulary and its contribution to emotion understanding in 4-to 9-year-old children. *Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*, 193, 104790.

