

Unit 1



Week 4

Building Homes/Buildings with Windows

Blocks



Standards:

ATL.IC.PS.1 - 5



Materials:

- The *Hello, Goodbye Window*
- Variety of blocks: unit, cardboard, window, kapla, etc.
- People figurines
- Images of houses and apartments (if possible closely matching types of homes children in the class live in)
- Images of the house from *The Hello, Goodbye Window*
- Clipboard
- Paper
- Writing materials

Vocabulary:

- Special
- Home
- Stack
- Shorter
- Wider
- Plan
- Construct
- Multiple
- Between

Preparation: Set up materials.

Intro to Centers:

“In our book *The Hello, Goodbye Window* The family members had a **special** window in their **home** that they liked to look out together to see people arriving, the gardens growing and to play games through together. Here is a picture of the house, what do you notice?”

“Today we are going to build **homes** with windows in the block area. You can **stack** the blocks to make tall homes or place them next to each other to make **shorter** and **wider** homes”

*Show illustrations.
Children Respond*

Show materials. Model.

Show materials.

“You could make a **plan** before you **construct** your home by telling a friend what you want your home to look like or by drawing it on a paper like we did in Discovery. You could build a house with just one window, or you could have **multiple** windows. You could use the window blocks or you could leave spaces **between** blocks to make the windows.”

“Maybe you want to build something to see when you look out your window like the little girl in our story. What might you want to see out your window?”

Model building with unit blocks and window blocks.

Model building with only unit blocks and leaving spaces between them as windows.

Model.

Children respond.

During Centers:

Encourage children to work together to build homes and/or neighborhoods. Encourage children to use strategies they learned when building stable block towers to build stable homes. Encourage children to draw and label their structures and add windows throughout the structure.

Guiding Questions during Centers:

- How is your home similar to or different from the house in *The Hello, Goodbye Window*?
- How is your home similar or different from the one you live in/the one your friend built?
- Who lives in the home you built?
- What rooms did you choose to put in your home?
- What do you think you would see out of the window(s) in the home you built?

Thinking and Feedback: Invite children to share their processes. Encourage children to describe any challenges they encountered.

Documentation: Collect samples of their plans and take photographs and/or videos to show the children’s process and final product. Record their dictations about what they are building and what they might see out of the windows.

Provocation: Add materials that teacher/students collected from outside for them to create the landscape around their house/building (sticks, rocks, leaves, flowers etc).

Use photographs of their buildings at writing/drawing center and encourage them to write/draw what they saw out the windows.