

Mylar And Block Structures





Materials:

- Raccoon On His Own
- Beautiful Stuff
- large pieces of cardboard, covered with mylar/shiny wrapping paper
- Blocks covered with mylar
- flashlights

Vocabulary:

- reflection
- sunlight
- swamp
- structure
- mylar
- surface

Preparation: Set up materials.

Intro to Centers:

"In *Raccoon On His Own,* the baby raccoon looked into the *swamp* water. What do you notice?"

"The *sunlight* shone on the water's *surface* and created a *reflection*."

"Today in Blocks, you can build *structures* with these materials. What do you notice?"

"What do you *predict* will happen when you build structures on the *mylar* surface?"

Show illustrations. Children respond.

Show materials. Children respond.

Children respond.

During Centers:

Compare and contrast block structure reflections to illustrations in *Raccoon On His Own*. Compare and contrast reflections with the classroom lights turned off. Encourage children to experiment with moving the light source/object. Encourage children to compare and contrast reflections in mylar to reflections on other surfaces.

Guiding Questions during Centers:

- How does the size of the structure affect its reflection?
- What do you predict will happen to reflections if the classroom lights are turned off?
- What do you predict will happen if you use a flashlight on your structure?
- How many blocks do you see in a reflection of your structure?

Thinking & Feedback: Invite children to share their processes. Encourage children to describe the challenges they might have encountered.

Documentation: Collect samples of the children's work as well as photographs and/or video of their process; use the documentation to launch a discussion during Thinking and Feedback.

Provocation: Give children smaller mirrors and wooden cubes for a scaled-down work area. Challenge children to duplicate each other's structures by looking at the reflections.







