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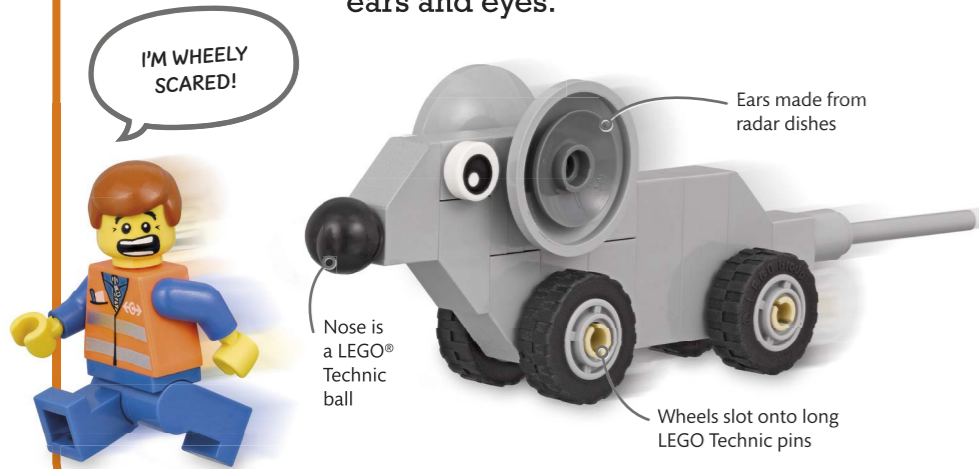
# Ways To Beat Boredom with **LEGO**<sup>®</sup> Bricks



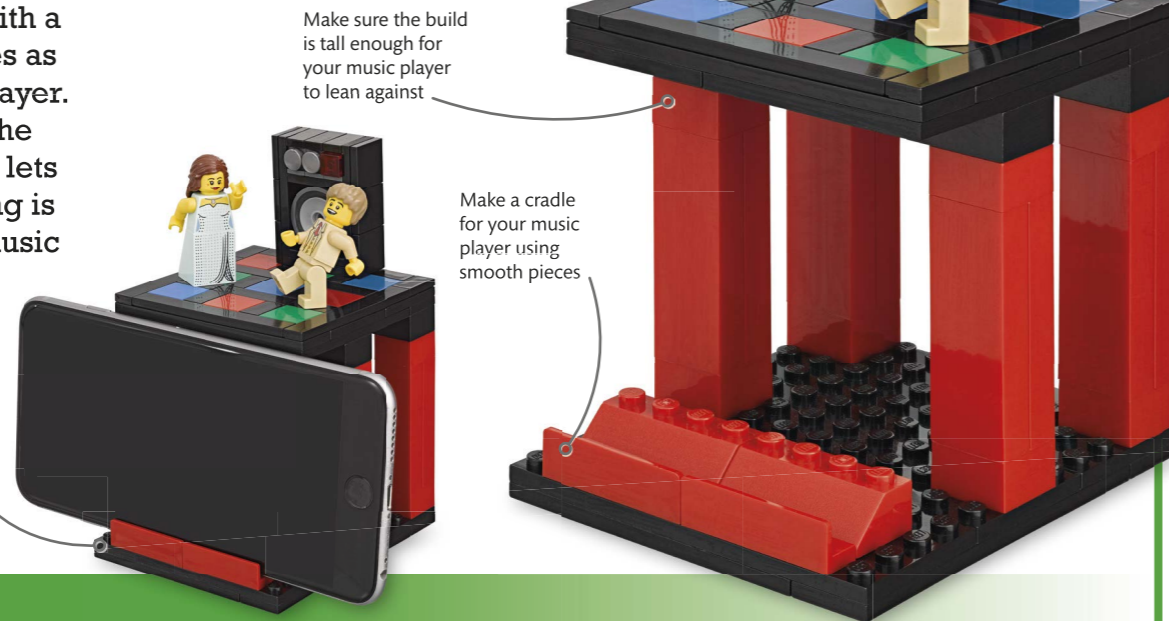
1

# Play a mouse trick

Eek! A mouse! Push this four-wheeled frightener past your friends or family to give them a start! Look for pieces in your collection that might work as a nose, tail, ears and eyes.



Get the party started with a dance floor that doubles as a stand for your MP3 player. It won't just put you in the mood to dance – it also lets you easily see what song is playing, or watch the music video that goes with it.



2

# Make a music stand

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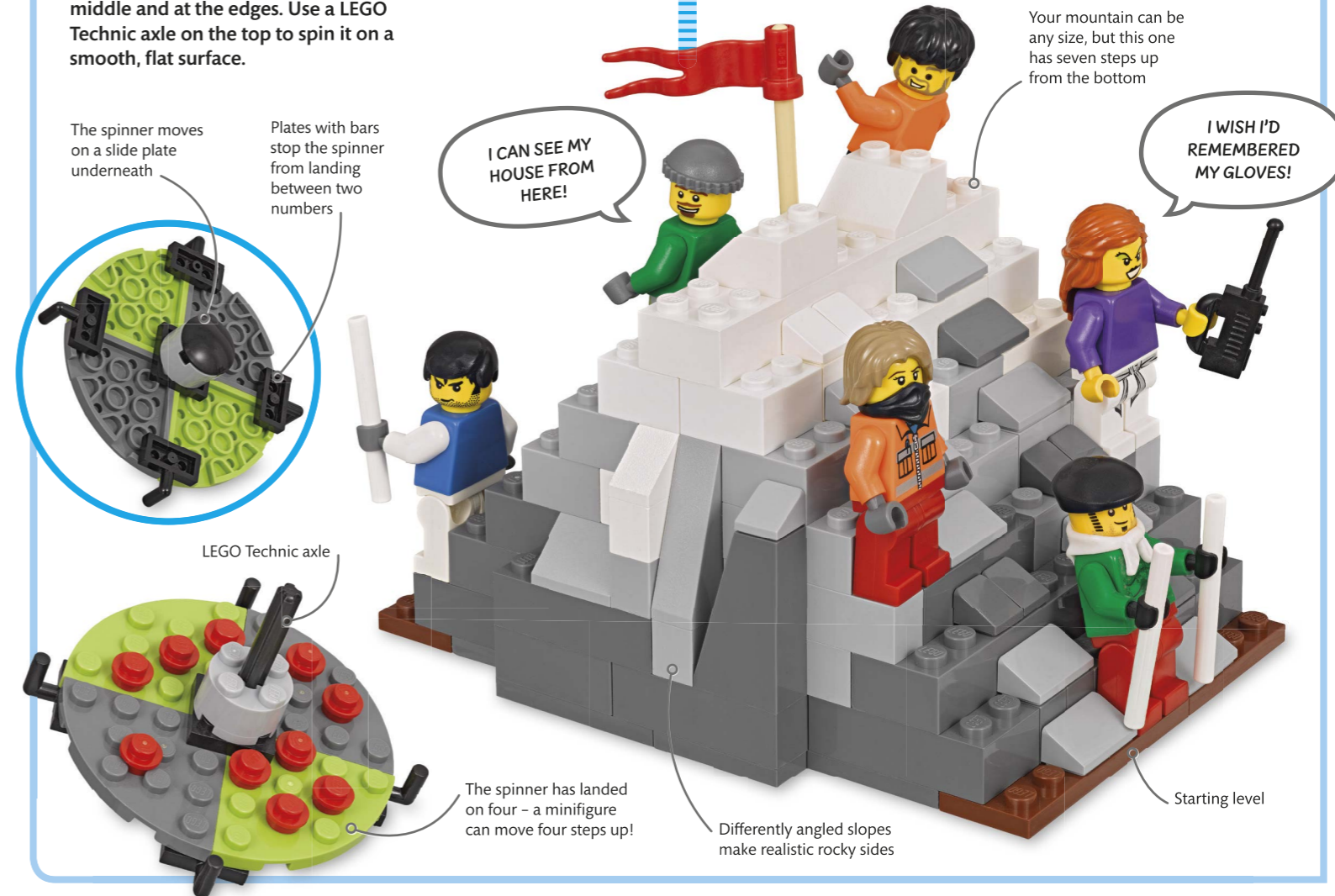
# Climb a mountain

Want to be a mountaineer? Start small by scaling this LEGO mountain in a fun two-player game! All you need is six minifigures (three for each player) and enough bricks to build a mountaintop that has the same number of steps on each side.

**SPINNER**  
You can make your own spinner for working out the number of steps to move on each turn. This one has sections numbered one to four, held together with plates in the middle and at the edges. Use a LEGO Technic axle on the top to spin it on a smooth, flat surface.

**HOW TO PLAY**

- 1 Each player lines up their three minifigures at the base of the mountain.
- 2 Players take turns spinning the spinner and move any one of their minifigures the number of steps up the mountain shown on the spinner.
- 3 If one of your climbers lands in a space directly opposite a minifigure on the other side (excluding the very top level), the other player has to send that minifigure back to the bottom!
- 4 The winner is the first player to get all three of their minifigures to the top of the mountain.



# 4

## Strike a pose

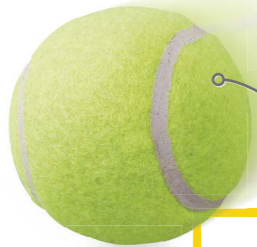
What do minifigures get up to when they think no one is looking? Why not grab your camera and find out! You can create all kinds of funny and interesting scenes with just one or two minifigures and some everyday household objects – all of which will seem giant-sized to a minifigure!



THIS WATER LOOKS FUNNY...

A box full of cotton wool makes a bubbly swimming bath for a minifigure diver

I'M HAVING A BALL!

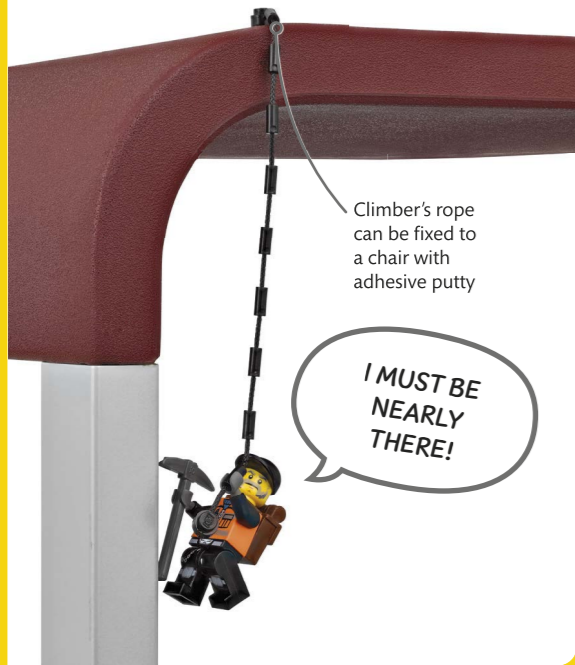


A tennis ball becomes a giant boulder

Pose your minifigures in a way that tells a story

### SETTING THE SCENE

Play up the size difference between the real world and the LEGO one. A minifigure would need mountain-climbing gear to reach the top of a real chair, and a team of friends just to pick up a pencil! Look for items around your home that could form the basis of a fun scene.

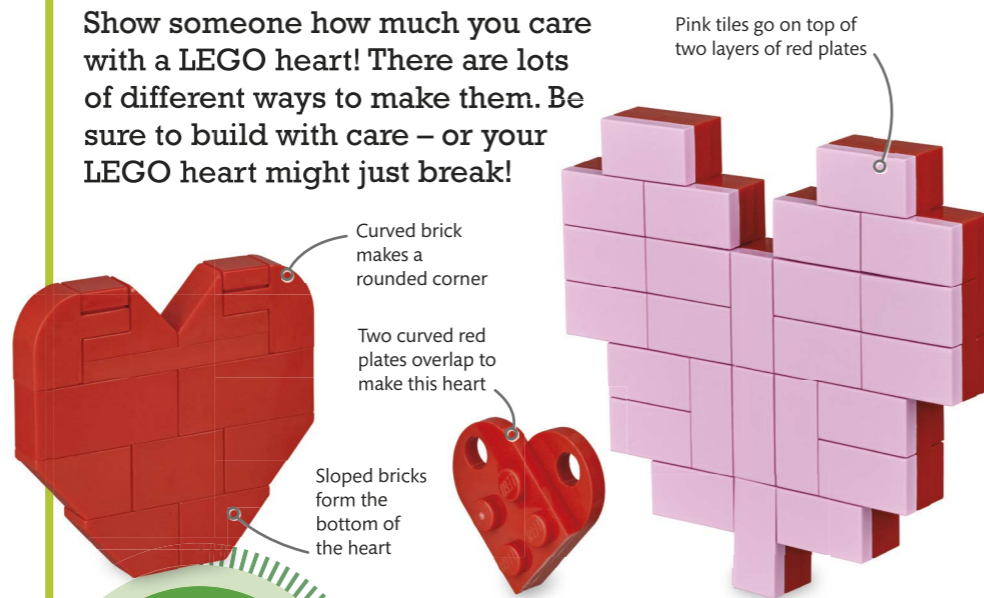


Climber's rope can be fixed to a chair with adhesive putty

I MUST BE NEARLY THERE!

Share a heart with your best friend on page 177.

Show someone how much you care with a LEGO heart! There are lots of different ways to make them. Be sure to build with care – or your LEGO heart might just break!



Pink tiles go on top of two layers of red plates

Curved brick makes a rounded corner

Two curved red plates overlap to make this heart

Sloped bricks form the bottom of the heart

# 5

## Give some LEGO® love

# 6

## Build a brainteaser

Each shape has a corner that isn't linked by studs.

It looks as if the only way to separate these shapes is to break off some of the bricks, but there is a clever way to slide them apart without breaking them or changing their shape. Challenge your friends to see who can solve it in the quickest time!

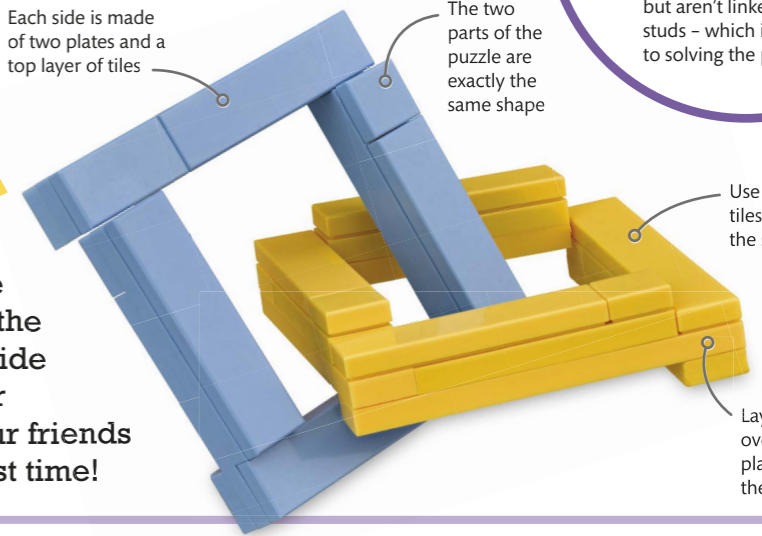
Each side is made of two plates and a top layer of tiles

The two parts of the puzzle are exactly the same shape

These sides touch but aren't linked by studs – which is the key to solving the puzzle!

Use smooth tiles to cover the studs

Layers of overlapping plates connect the sides



## Save your pennies

Start saving with a LEGO piggy bank. Your piggy bank doesn't need to be piggy-shaped, but it will need a hollow middle, a slot to put money in and a way to get your money out again!

Make sure the slot is big enough for coins to fit through

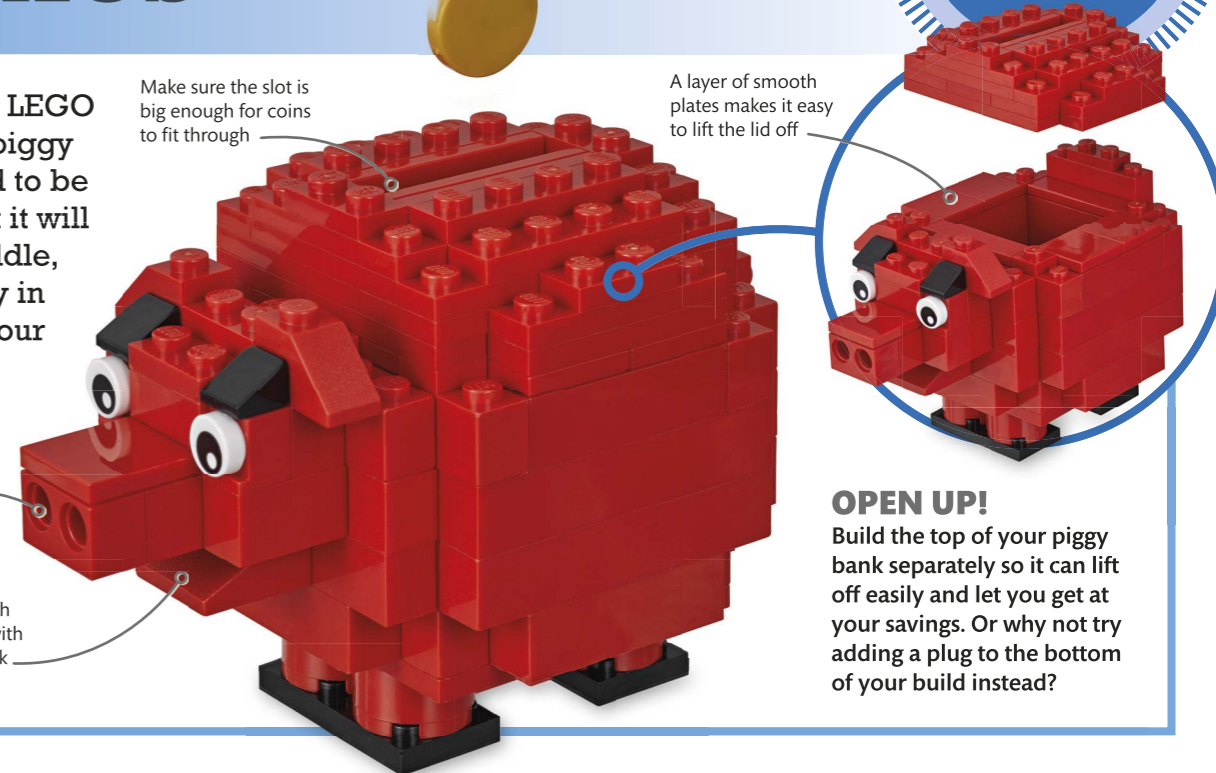
A layer of smooth plates makes it easy to lift the lid off

Snout is a brick with two holes and a tile on top

Open mouth is created with a slope brick

**OPEN UP!** Build the top of your piggy bank separately so it can lift off easily and let you get at your savings. Or why not try adding a plug to the bottom of your build instead?

# 7



# 8

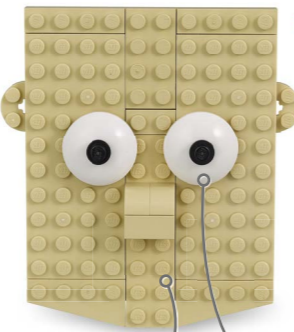
## Show how you feel today

Express your mood with LEGO bricks! Build a face with just eyes and a nose and you can easily add details that change as often as your moods. How many different looks can your LEGO face make?

Eyebrows can be very expressive



Life belt is an open mouth



Plates attach to base plate underneath



Radar dishes for eyes

IT'S NOT RUDE TO MAKE FACES!

Pink pieces for rosy cheeks

Just a few colours show Goldilocks' hair, dress and shoes

See how much character you can squeeze into tiny brick towers. These groups of tower dudes have just enough clues to give away who they are meant to be! Build your own teams of tower dudes – and quiz your friends to see who can name them in the quickest time!



Goldilocks and the three bears

The bears are three different sizes

The three little pigs and the big bad wolf



NINJAGO Ninja and Master Wu

A single yellow plate suggests the Ninja's masked face

## Create tower dudes

# 9

## Build a family tree

# 10

### BUILDER'S TIP

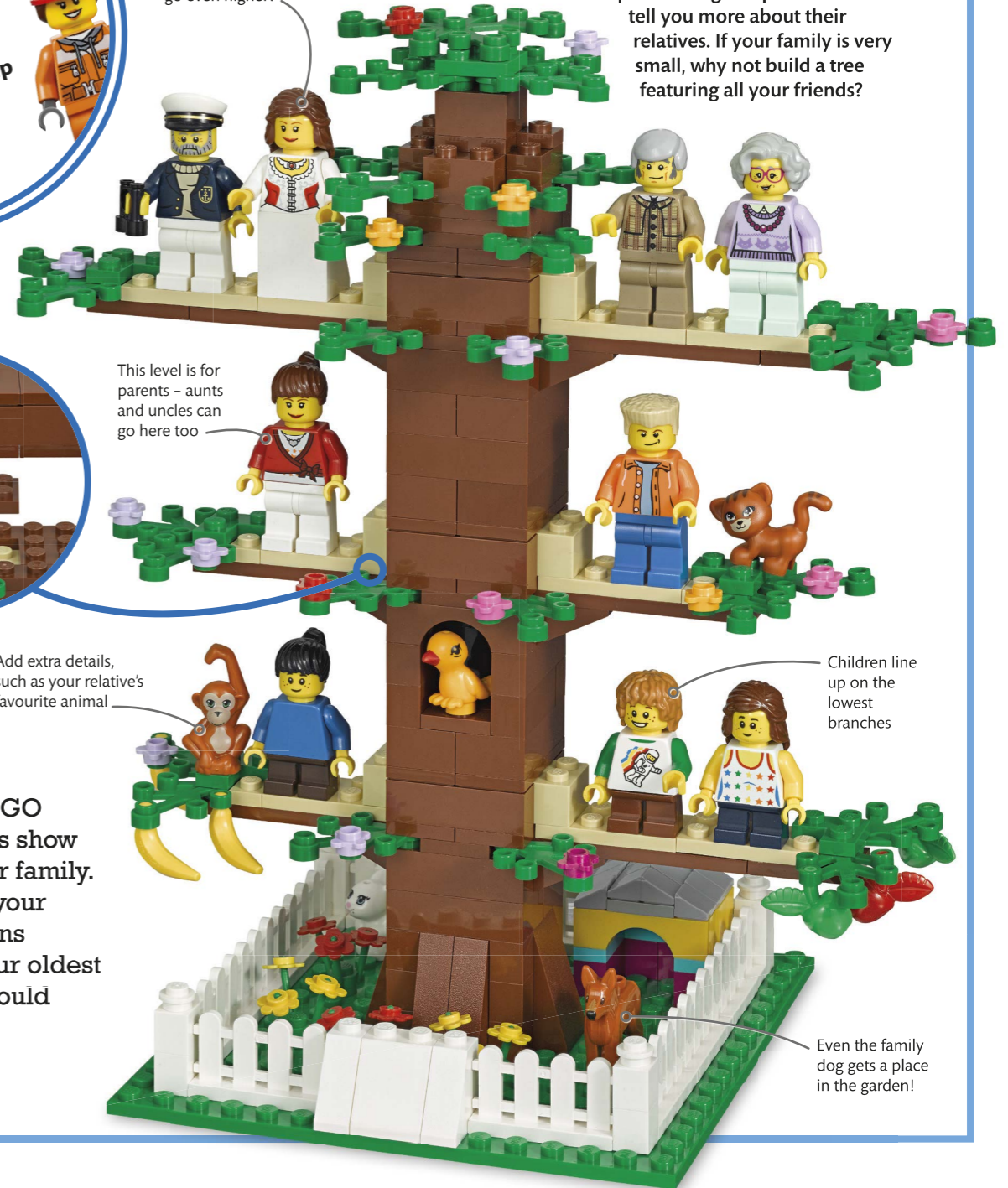
Just like a real tree, the trunk gets wider at the bottom. Slope bricks on all sides help support its height.



### BRANCHING OUT

Fill your tree with the minifigures that look most like your family members, or which best reflect their personalities, hobbies or jobs. If you want to keep building your tree higher, ask your parents or grandparents to tell you more about their relatives. If your family is very small, why not build a tree featuring all your friends?

Grandparents fill this top level – great-grandparents would go even higher!



2x2 brick is built into the trunk

Long plates are sandwiched into the middle of each section

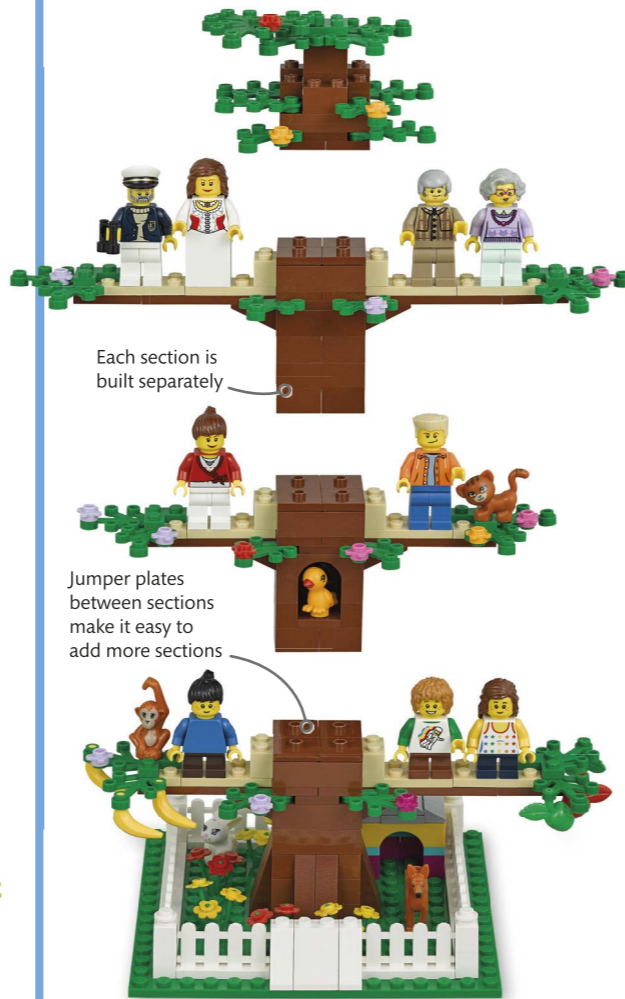
Slope bricks support each branch

This level is for parents – aunts and uncles can go here too

Add extra details, such as your relative's favourite animal

Children line up on the lowest branches

Even the family dog gets a place in the garden!



Each section is built separately

Jumper plates between sections make it easy to add more sections

Create your very own LEGO family tree! The branches show the different parts of your family. Begin with yourself and your brothers, sisters or cousins at the bottom and put your oldest relatives at the top. You could even add your pets too!

## 11

# Make a gift box

Design a gift box that is so pretty, you might not want to give it away. If that is the case, you could also use it as a seasonal decoration, or as a secret place where you and your best friend can leave messages for each other!



Centre of ribbon is a round brick

The red ribbon sides hold the lid in place

Corner plates for ribbon loops to attach to



## ALL WRAPPED UP

The ribbon is what makes this box really special. At the sides, it is made with smooth tiles fixed to bricks with side studs. The loops of the bow on top are made from four curved bricks, with two single bricks at the pointed ends.



## HOW TO PLAY

1 Set a timer to two minutes. Players take turns rolling the two sheep onto a soft surface, scoring points depending on how they land.

2 A sheep on its side is worth one point; a sheep on its back is worth two points; a sheep with its face down is worth three points; and a sheep standing on its feet is worth four points.

3 The winner is the player who gets the most points in two minutes.



The sheep should be small enough to fit in your hand



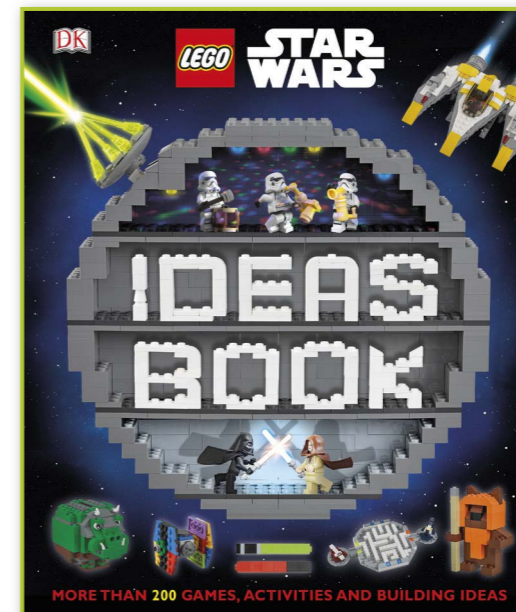
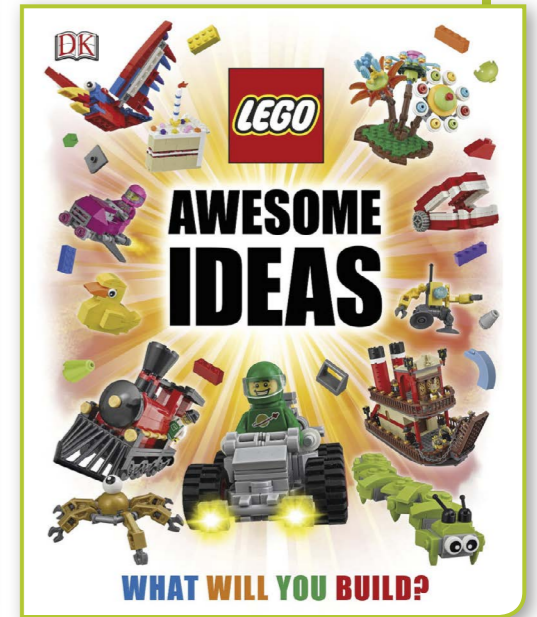
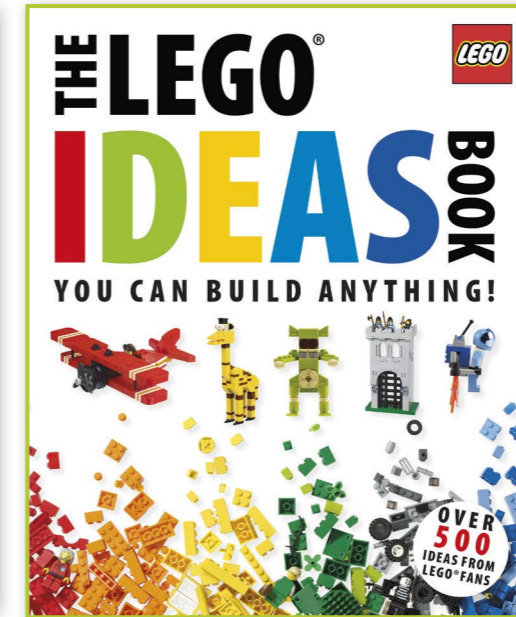
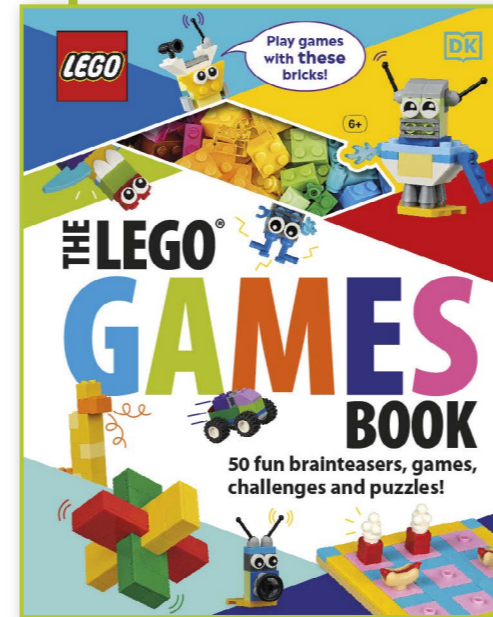
This slope brick allows the sheep to come to rest face down

Baa-nish boredom with this fun and easy-to-play game. Any number of players can take part: all you need is two LEGO sheep and a soft surface, such as a carpet.

# Play the sheep roll game

## 12

Want even more LEGO® inspiration?  
Try these books!



12 Ways to Beat Boredom with LEGO® Bricks is an extract taken from 365 Things to Do with LEGO® Bricks  
Models built by Joshua Berry, Jason Briscoe, Stuart Crawshaw, Naomi Farr, Alice Finch, Rod Gillies, Kevin Hall, Barney Main and Drew Maughan  
Photography by Gary Ombler

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