



Educational and Developmental Benefits: BRICKS 4 KIDZ[®] Program

There are many educational, developmental, and social benefits to the BRICKS 4 KIDZ[®] approach to learning and play. Here are just a few.

- *Follow step-by-step directions* to complete a task. It is important not to rush through and miss a step. This is especially valuable for children with AD/HD and can help them develop the patience to follow step-by-step instructions in a classroom setting.
- *Sequencing* is an important skill in many learning processes and the motivational nature of this type of sequencing makes it fun for children, while the skill gained can easily translate to other environments.
- *Fine motor skills* are developed as children pick up and assemble the many small bricks, axles, gears and bushings.
- The spatial/relational thinking necessary to follow the project instructions taps into both the *visual and kinesthetic learning styles* of many children. Kinesthetic or tactile learners learn by doing. Also, playing with LEGO[®] bricks is highly motivating, so children are more likely to retain information that is delivered in the context of something that interests them.
- *Organizational skills* are developed by keeping the bricks in their proper place. This is another skill that translates into every area of life. At school, at home, or in the workplace, people are more efficient if they can quickly and easily access the materials they need to complete a task.
- Completing a model with LEGO[®] bricks nurtures *process-oriented thinking* and helps children develop *abstract thought* to envision the project before it is complete.
- *Social/emotional skills* such as patience, communication and teamwork are exercised in the process of completing a build.
- *Working through frustration* to complete a project builds *self-esteem*.
- Working with a partner fosters *teamwork and cooperation*.
- The children learn about *simple machines* and develop an appreciation of how various structures are put together.