

## Exploratory Play

## Opening the Box

Each student needs one set of blocks. Teach students how to open a box of Bond Blocks. Before opening the clips, the box must be on a **flat surface**, with the **label facing up**. Otherwise, the blocks will spill out onto the floor.

## Talk

After building, ask students to describe their build to the teacher or another student. The teacher can draw attention to length relationships, shapes, positional language and patterns. For example,



*"Tell me about what you have made."*



*"Your pyramid looks very stable. What do you think it is that is making it so strong?"*



*"These look like steps. Can you make your dinosaur climb up to the top?"*

## Pack Away

Teach students how to pack away a set of Bond Blocks:

1. Put all of the Bond Blocks away. Use the template inside the box to make sure **no blocks are lost**. Packing away the blocks helps students develop consideration for their environment and other students who will use the blocks after them.
2. When students are ready to learn about the correct **orientation of numbers**, they should use the template to make sure blocks are not returned with the numbers upside down.
3. After the blocks are packed away, but before the lid is shut, students can practise **counting**. Students can count forwards from one or backwards from ten. Instruct students to touch the Bond Block, next to the **written numeral** as they say the **number name**.
4. Ensure that students **click shut both clips**, listening for two clicks, before they pick up the box of blocks by the handle. Otherwise, the blocks will spill out onto the floor.
5. Show students where the box of blocks live in the classroom and how to return it with the **sticker face up** and the **handle out**. This makes it easier for the next person to use the blocks.



The template inside the box includes numbers and lines to help students place the blocks away in the correct places.