

Mathematical moments: Shape with toddlers

Commenting on shapes



Gemma is playing alongside Ibrahim (22 months) and Zarah (19 months). Zarah is stacking blocks in a trolley, moving across the room, returning, emptying the blocks into Gemma's lap and then repeating the process. Ibrahim is attempting to stack unit blocks one on top of another. He has been managing to stack three or four blocks before they fall and he has to start again. Ibrahim has shown high levels of involvement in this activity. However, he is now grappling with the problem of trying to stack a regular block on top of a triangular prism. After several attempts Ibrahim starts to become frustrated and so Gemma decides to interact. She lifts off the triangular prism at the same time as she offers Ibrahim a regular block, 'Let's try this flat one'.

