A Preschool **Skills-Builder** Game

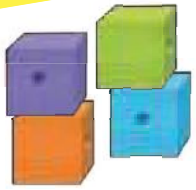
STACK UP!™

A Cooperative Block Game for Little Kids!

Ages 3-5
2-6 Players
15 Minutes

Includes

1 game board



12 wooden blocks



2 stack sticks



1 spinner



1 Stack Smasher with stand



12 challenge cards

STACK UP!™ gives kids the chance to do two favorite things—build a tower of blocks and knock it down! The game encourages color learning, hand-eye coordination, taking turns, working together, counting, and game-play basics.

Stack Up!™ has three levels of play with specific rules designed for age and developmental capability. As a child grows, she moves to the next level of play, from 3 to 4 to 5 years of age, adding challenges at each age and level.

Stack Up!™ can be played by kids of different ages and capabilities *at the same time.* Since the object is the same for all levels, you can facilitate a game where each child plays at his or her level.

All of Peaceable Kingdom's **Preschool Skills-Builder Games** are cooperative. That means all players play together against the game, not against each other. Players help each other, no one is left out, and everyone wins or loses together. Cooperative games build a feeling of security for the youngest children just learning how to play games and they build self-esteem and habits of cooperation in older kids.





INSTRUCTIONS

OBJECT

To stack all 12 blocks, as a team, before the Stack Smasher reaches the last space on the board and topples the tower.

SET-UP

Lay the board on a flat surface. Put the Stack Smasher in the stand and place him on Start. Put the blocks, spinner, Stack Sticks, and Challenge Cards off to the side of the board where everyone can reach them. *You don't need the Stack Sticks or the Challenge Cards in Level 1.*



LEVEL 1 Age 3 — Use Your Hands!

What you need to play: game board, spinner, 12 blocks, the Stack Smasher in stand. *You don't need the Stack Sticks or Challenge Cards in Level 1.*

How to Play

Spin the spinner. If it stops on:

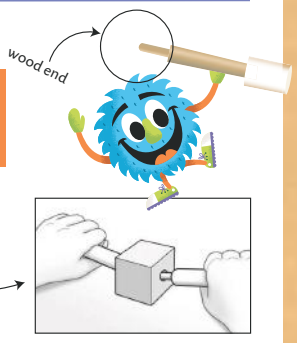
- **Color** – using your hands, place 1 block of that color on the block stack in the center of the board
- **Stack Smasher** – move the Stack Smasher forward 1 space
- **Challenge** – make a short stack with any 2 blocks and then, using your hands, stack the short stack on the block stack in the center of the board



RULES FOR ALL LEVELS

- If all or part of the block stack topples during play, the game is over and the players lose.
- If you drop a block while trying to stack it, the Stack Smasher moves forward 1 space and the block moves back to the side of the board.
- If the spinner stops on a color and there are no more blocks of that color, the Stack Smasher moves forward 1 space.

LEVEL 2 Age 4 — Use the Stack Sticks! WOOD ENDS



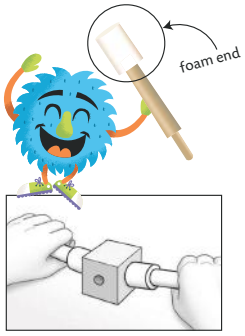
Insert the wood ends of the Stack Sticks into the hole in the block from either side to lift and move the block onto the stack.

How to Play

Spin the spinner. If it stops on:

- **Color** – using the WOOD ENDS of the 2 Stack Sticks, place 1 block of that color on the block stack in the center of the board
- **Stack Smasher** – move the Stack Smasher forward 1 space
- **Challenge** – 2-player cooperative challenge! Pick a Challenge Card. With the player to your left, use the WOOD ENDS of the Stack Sticks and move 1 block of any color to the block stack WHILE PERFORMING THE CHALLENGE ACTIVITY.

LEVEL 3 Age 5 — Use the Stack Sticks! FOAM ENDS



Gently push the foam ends of the Stack Sticks against the block from either side to lift and move the block onto the stack.

How to Play

Spin the spinner. If it stops on:

- **Color** – using the FOAM ENDS of the 2 Stack Sticks, place 1 block of that color on the block stack in the center of the board
- **Stack Smasher** – move the Stack Smasher forward 1 space
- **Challenge** – 2-player cooperative challenge! Pick a Challenge Card. With the player to your left, use the FOAM ENDS of the Stack Sticks and move 1 block of any color to the block stack WHILE PERFORMING THE CHALLENGE ACTIVITY. For an extra challenge, try moving a short stack of 2 blocks with the foam ends while performing the challenge activity.



Challenge Cards give the players a specific challenge to perform while they are stacking blocks. Don't worry if the challenges seem too hard at first. They are meant to be fun and something kids can practice and grow into. *Remember, players always play with a teammate when doing a challenge.*

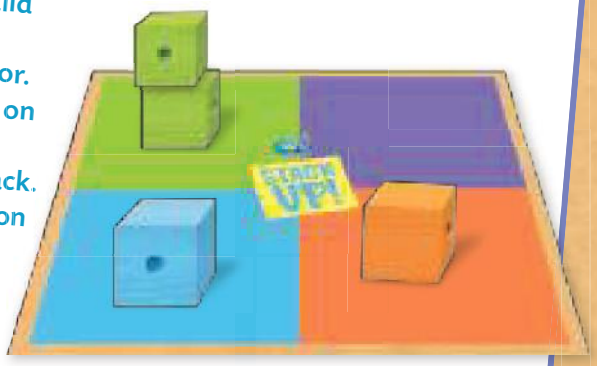




BONUS!

Flip the board over for a fun learning activity for 2 year olds.

Spin the spinner and build stacks of blocks in the matching squares of color. When the spinner stops on Challenge, let all players choose any block and stack. When the spinner stops on Stack Smasher, have all players make a silly Stack Smasher noise.



Most 2-year-olds play best if they are the only one playing the game. Some 2-year-olds can spin a spinner, others cannot. Experiment with your child to know what level of play is right for her. Most important, play for fun!

Lose a piece?

Contact us and we'll send you the missing piece for free!

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Illustrations © 2012 Tad Carpenter.
Game design by Joyce Johnson.

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