

# Make the River Flow

Pre-braille

Level Players Duration

2

1+

10 min

Tags

Brick orientation  
Pretend play  
Multi-sensory

Skills

Orient objects  
Develop tactile tracking skills  
Engage in pretend-play sequences  
Accept new tactile experiences

More activities

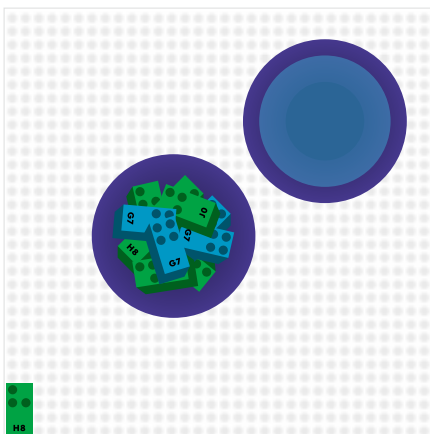
Apple Tree  
The Brick Walking on its Head  
Up Up Down

## Create an unbroken line... and make the water flow!

Boats need a good riverbed and water to navigate. Build unbroken straight river banks and play with boats or swimming animals.

### Goals

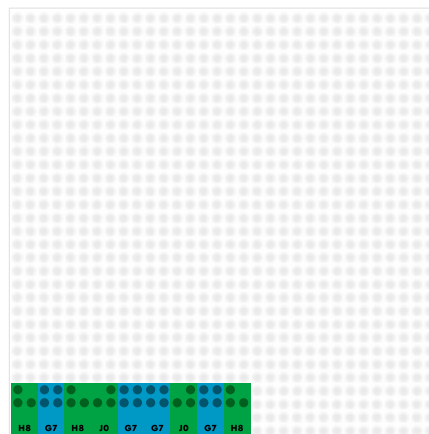
To explore the tactile properties of a brick, and work on orientation and alignment.  
To reduce any tactile defensiveness around water and help the children tell a story about the boat or other water toys.



### The adult prepares

- 1 baseplate
- 16 letter-bricks: H, G and J, in a bowl
- 1 bowl of water

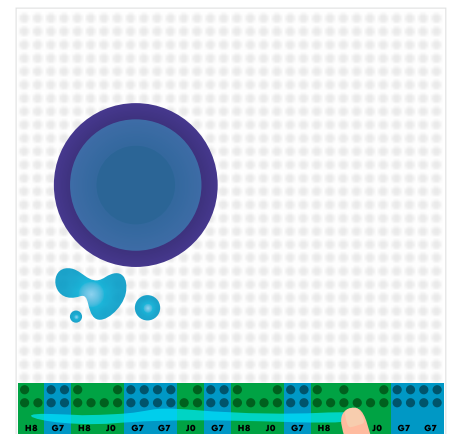
Place a brick in reading position, at the bottom left corner of the baseplate.



### The children play

- 1 The child explores the baseplate to find the source of the braille brick river.

Tell them to add more bricks to continue the riverbed, with the flat area at the bottom of the bricks representing the water.



- 2 When the riverbed is built, tell the child to follow the flow of the water with their finger from the source to make sure the river is smooth and calm.

Then, they can wet the riverbed with the real water and sail a boat.

### Facilitation tips

- Encourage and demonstrate tactile exploration of the brick. Identify the flat space as the bottom of the brick and explain braille brick orientation: space at the bottom, studs at the top!
- To make the activity easier, place more starting bricks.
- Change the letters to vary the difficulty.
- Say: Imagine where the river is flowing to? (the child might respond 'it's flowing from my hometown to the ocean' for example)
- What could the studs be above the water? (the child might respond 'they're children playing in little boats' or 'they're ducks' or crocodiles!)