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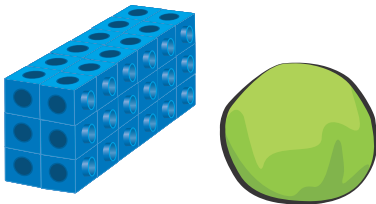

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About the Mathematics in This Unit

Dear Family,

We are beginning a new unit in mathematics called *Build a Block, Build a Wall*. This geometry unit focuses on three-dimensional shapes. In this unit, students look for and identify three-dimensional shapes in the real-world as they go on Shape Hunts in school and at home. They create, identify, describe, compare, represent, and build with 3-D shapes. They also explore the relationship between 2-D and 3-D shapes as they match the faces of Geoblocks—a set of related three-dimensional wooden blocks—to corresponding 2-D shapes.

Throughout this unit, students will be working toward these goals:

Benchmarks/Goals	Examples
Understand words that describe relative position.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• above• on top of• below• beneath• beside• next to• in front of• behind
Identify and describe the overall size, shape, and features of familiar 3-D shapes.	<p>“It has a triangle on one side.” “It’s big.”</p> <p>“It would make a good ramp.”  “It looks like a piece of pie.”</p> <p>“One part is pointy.”</p>
Make 3-D shapes.	
Combine shapes to make 3-D shapes.	



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About the Mathematics in This Unit

In our math class, students engage in math problems and activities and discuss the underlying concepts. They are asked to share their reasoning and solutions. It is important that children solve math problems accurately in ways that make sense to them. At home, encourage your child to explain his or her math thinking to you.

In the coming weeks, you will receive more information about this unit as well as suggestions for activities to do at home.