

A decorative border made of colorful LEGO bricks in red, green, blue, and yellow, arranged in a stepped pattern around the edges of the page.

# Amphitheater

Where Imagination is the Star!

## Key words:

Legos, Amphitheatre, Construction, Architecture, History, Collaboration

## Target group:

primary school pupils  
(ages 6-11)

## Objectives:

This hands-on LEGO activity teaches children about amphitheatres' historical significance and architectural structure while developing their fine motor skills through creative construction. As participants design and build their amphitheatres, they'll explore connections between history, art, and mathematics, stimulating both imagination and collaborative problem-solving through teamwork. The project blends cultural education with practical design skills in an engaging, interactive learning experience.

## General Guideline on Time Allocation:

The duration needed to carry out this activity may vary depending on the specific group of children. Teachers are encouraged to adapt the implementation according to the needs, interests, and dynamics of the group.

In the preparatory phase, teachers may use a variety of activities to introduce and contextualize the chosen topic. These can include discussions, videos, drawings, storytelling, or even a field trip, depending on the age and background knowledge of the children.

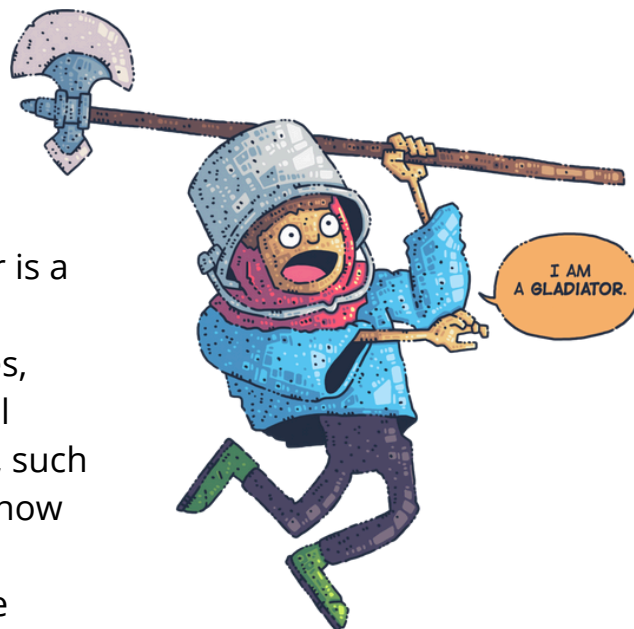
The main construction phase, during which children plan and build their urban element using LEGO bricks, should typically not exceed 45 to 60 minutes. However, this phase often stimulates further curiosity and questions among the children, potentially leading to extended engagement or follow-up activities. For more detailed instructions and pedagogical support on how to implement activities of INNO-kids project, please download the Teacher's Methodological Guide.

## Materials and Resources Needed:

- Legos of different shapes, sizes and colors.
- Images of famous amphitheatres (such as the Colosseum of Rome).
- Paper sheets and coloured pencils.
- Projector (optional).
- Factsheets on amphitheatres.

## Introduction:

Explain to children that an amphitheater is a large circular or oval structure, used in antiquity for public events such as games, theatrical performances, and gladiatorial combat. Show images of amphitheatres, such as the Colosseum of Rome, to illustrate how they were built and used. Explain the importance of these constructions in the social and cultural life of ancient civilizations.



## Procedure:

### Preparation

Divide the children into small groups of 3 to 4 participants. Each group should discuss and plan what their amphitheatre will look like, drawing on paper the type and shape of the amphitheatre.

### Construction

Using the Legos, the groups begin to build their amphitheater, paying attention to details such as the central arena, the bleachers and the entrances.

### Details

After construction, children can decorate their amphitheatres with additional pieces and draw small posters or props representing shows or events that would take place in their amphitheatre.

### Presentation

Each group introduces their amphitheatre to the rest of the class, explaining what they have built and what they have learned about the importance of these sites in history.



## Tips:

Start with a short presentation about amphitheatres, showing images and videos to help children visualize the grandeur and architecture of these monuments. Include stories about historical events that took place at these locations to make learning more interesting. During construction, encourage collaboration by allowing children to discuss ideas and share tasks. This promotes communication skills and teamwork. Provide factsheets about different amphitheatres to inspire groups and add an element of cultural research. In the final presentations, encourage children to explain their design choices and what they have learned about the amphitheatres. This develops expression skills and makes the activity more engaging.

**Additional resources:** To enrich the activity, consider using additional resources such as illustrated books on ancient architecture, educational videos on the construction and use of amphitheatres in Ancient Rome, and mock-ups or models of royal amphitheatres. Augmented reality applications can also be an interesting tool, allowing children to see digital recreations of 3D amphitheatres. In addition, art materials such as cardboard, markers and paints can be provided so that children can create additional posters and props to decorate their LEGO constructions, making learning more visual and interactive.

## Additional Considerations:

### Differentiation:

Provide additional support or simplified instructions for pupils who may require extra assistance. For advanced pupils, offer extension tasks such as researching further sustainable practices or designing more complex models.

### Assessment:

Assess pupils based on their participation and engagement during discussions and hands-on activities. Evaluate the creativity, effort, collaboration, depth of understanding demonstrated in their models, critical thinking, ability to provide constructive feedback and presentation skills.



## Curriculum Connections:

This activity integrates:

**Environmental Studies** (knowledge of historical and cultural heritage; understanding the importance of public spaces in ancient civilisations)





**Mathematics** (development of spatial awareness and recognition of geometric shapes during construction tasks)

**Art** (visual and plastic expression through LEGO-based design and building)

**Social Skills** (promotion of teamwork, communication, and the sharing of ideas)

## SDG Connections:

- **SDG 4:** Quality Education – Promote inclusive and equitable learning by encouraging creativity and critical thinking.
- **SDG 11:** Sustainable Cities and Communities – Fostering knowledge about the importance of preserving cultural and historical heritage.
- **SDG 17:** Partnerships and Means of Implementation – Encourage collaboration and teamwork by developing communication skills and cooperation among children.

