

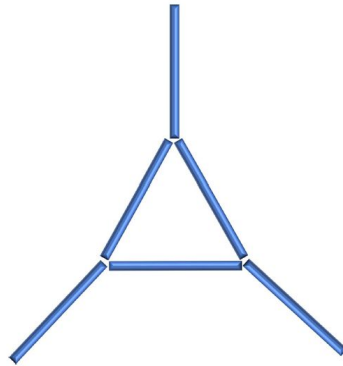
September 24, 2017

Math Club 1. Lesson 1

Are you good at giving directions?

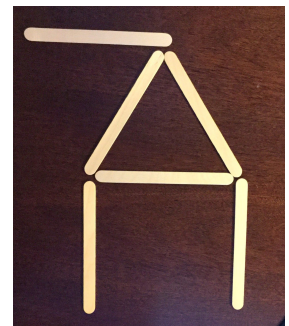
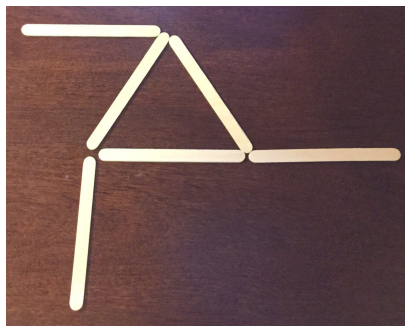
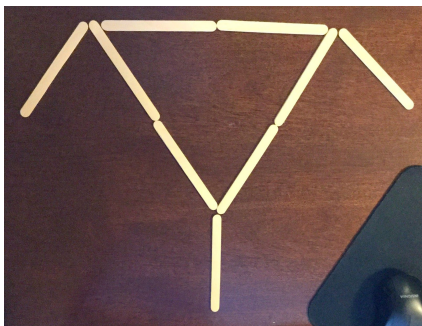
Today we will learn how to give **directions to someone**. Using a simple picture we will try to build the same figure using wooden sticks. Simple? Yes. But what if you are not looking at the picture, and instead someone is giving you the verbal directions to reconstruct the figure? The person giving instructions is not allowed to view and comment on how you are building until you are done.

1. First example: can you give directions to build this figure?



How should we describe this figure to another person?

- As a triangle with a stick pointing away from each corner?
- As 3 letter Y's joined together?
- As the 3-sided star?
- Or in some other way?



Good try? Or maybe not so easy?

2. Our new vocabulary for describing shapes

So to do a good job of instructing and building, we should first learn some “*new vocabulary*” to give directions that others can understand easily:

- making simplest shapes: a single stick, 2 sticks - make 1 long stick, plus sign, 2 sticks - make a corner, 2 sticks - make a letter T
- parts of shapes: top, bottom, left, right, center, middle
- shapes using more sticks: triangle, square, rectangle (2-sticks long and 1-stick high OR 1-stick long and 2-stick high), 3,4,5 - sided star, pentagon
- using letters as shapes: N, M, Z, Y, H, K, L - a corner, W, E, A, V - a corner, X - a plus sign

Orientations of shapes:

- straight/flat/from left to right, tilted (left side tilted down), upright
- corners and triangles can be pointing in a direction
- a shape can be joined to another/extended at tips, corners, middle or any combination of these

3. Now Anar will give us instructions and we can build the shape on his card:

- *First, build a letter T that consists of 3 sticks: 1 stick pointing down and 2 sticks that form a 2-sticks-long top part of letter T.*
- *Next, build a square out of 4 sticks and connect it to the bottom of the letter T.*
- *The square is connected to letter T by joining middle of the top side of square to*



bottom of letter T.

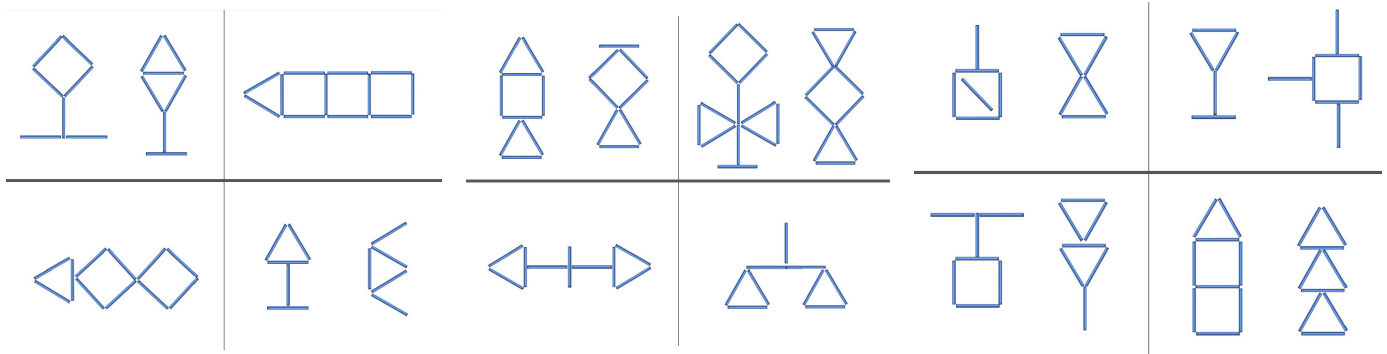
It works! Looks like we can make shapes without ever seeing it! Only by following someone's verbal instructions!

4. It seems we are ready now for a real challenge!

We will need cardboard dividers between 2 students sitting next to each other, cards with figures and plenty of wooden sticks. We will work in pairs: one student describing the picture to his friend, and the friend building based on his description.

- If you're building, make sure you don't peek at the card with the figure!
- And if you're describing, make sure you don't peek at how your friend is building!

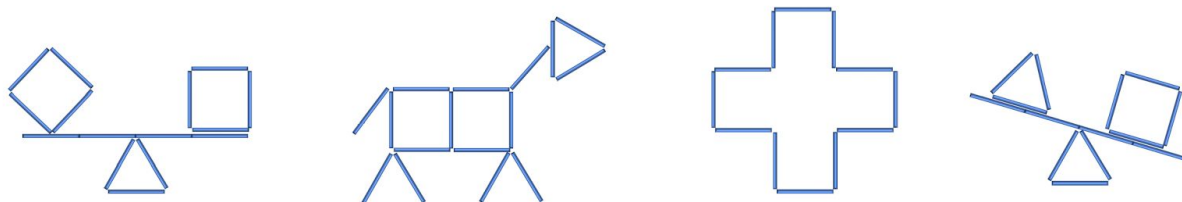
Some figures to describe to each other:



Setting and progress...



And also some figures for parents:



5. Now, let us think about our own figure, draw it and than give the partner directions how to build it! Unfortunately, we all were too busy to make pictures for this step:(

6. And the last challenge: Draw your own figure and give the directions to build it to the whole class!

Setting and progress...



- Make sure you use words and descriptions that are easy to understand for all your friends and family!

And yes, we met Max this lesson, so we can expect something interesting from him next time!

See you next Sunday!

Lena, Anar and Max

