

# Teacher's Guide



# **Table of contents**

| 1. | Introduction                 | 3  |
|----|------------------------------|----|
| 2. | Curriculum                   | 7  |
| 3. | Activities                   |    |
|    | 3.1 Pinwheel                 | 10 |
|    | 3.2 Spinning Tops            | 17 |
|    | 3.3 Seesaw                   | 24 |
|    | 3.4 Raft                     | 31 |
|    | 3.5 Car Launcher             |    |
|    | 3.6 Measuring Car            |    |
|    | 3.7 Ice Hockey Player        | 52 |
|    | 3.8 Sam's New Dog            | 59 |
| 4. | Problem-solving Activities   |    |
|    | 4.1 Crossing Crocodile River | 66 |
|    | 4.2 Hot Day                  |    |
|    | 4.3 Scarecrow                | 72 |
|    | 4.4 Swing                    | 75 |
| 5. | Glossary                     | 78 |
| 6. | LEGO® Element Survey         | 80 |



### Introduction

LEGO Education is pleased to bring you the 9656 Early Simple Machines set that provides ideal opportunities for young children to develop an understanding of science concepts through investigation and hands-on activities.

#### Who is it for?

The material is designed for use by teachers of grades K-2. No prior science training is required – only creativity and enthusiasm.

Working alone or in pairs, children of all abilities from 5 years and up can build, enjoy and learn from the 8 models and activities.

#### What is it for?

LEGO Education Science and Technology solutions enable young children to behave as young scientists, by providing them with tools and tasks that promote scientific enquiry. Using our solutions, children are encouraged to pose 'What if ...?' questions. They make predictions, test the behaviour of their models, and then record and present their findings.

#### What is it?

The 9656 Early Simple Machines set comes in a practical and durable storage box. Inside the storage box you will find the 101 bricks, 8 building instructions numbered 1-8, and an element survey that displays the set's unique mix of LEGO® DUPLO® bricks. Exclusive for this product is a plastic punch-out sheet with eyes, sails, scales and wings. The activity pack contains 8 main activities and 4 problem-solving activities.

The 9656 Early Simple Machines set is designed for easy use, easy classroom management, and lots of fun!



#### How to use it?

#### **Building instructions**

The 8 building instructions support the children's building process step-by-step with clear instructions on how to build each model. To interpret the 2D building instructions and turn them into a 3D model can be a demanding task and some children may need your help and encouragement.

We recommend children try to build the exact models from the cards to ensure that the model will perform as intended for the activity. The building instructions will support the development of technical knowledge and understanding.



#### **Teacher's Notes**

In the Teacher's Notes you will find 8 activities, including connect stories, and questions and further ideas for investigating – all ready for you to introduce to your children.

Every activity is carefully linked to the overall objectives of the Science, and Design and Technology curriculum. At the start of each activity, we list outcomes unique to that particular activity. The outcomes that are common to all activities are listed in the section called 'What are the curriculum highlights'. We also list the specific vocabulary focus and the additional materials needed for each activity.

The lessons follow LEGO Education's well-tested methodology – the 4C approach: Connect, Construct, Contemplate and Continue. This enables you to progress naturally through the activities.



#### Connect

A short story introduces Sam and Sara and provides the children with the opportunity to help identify the problem and investigate how best to come up with a solution.

You may choose to read the story or retell it in your own words. Please also draw on your own experience and current events from both near and far to set the scene for the children.



#### Construct

Using the building instructions, children build models embodying the concepts related to the key learning areas. Tips are provided for testing and making sure each model functions as intended.



#### Contemplate

This involves children carrying out scientific investigations with what they have constructed.

Through their investigations the children will learn to identify and compare test results. The activities will introduce them to the concepts of measurement, speed, balance, mechanical movement, structures, force and energy. They will be encouraged to describe the outcomes of their investigations. You will find all test results presented in the same chart as in the worksheet.

It may be a good idea to carry out the tests several times as test results may vary.

A series of questions are included to further deepen the children's experience and understanding of the investigation.

This phase also includes the possibility for you to start evaluating the learning and the progress of the individual child.



Ideas are provided for further investigations drawing on the children's creativity and previous experiences. The children will experiment, design additions or changes to their models, and invent related games.

#### Worksheets for the children

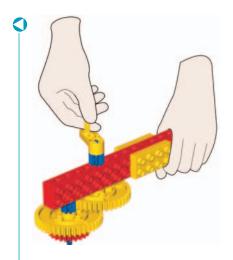
The illustrations in the worksheets will guide the children to use and explore their models without too much assistance. The children will predict, test and describe outcomes using words presented in the worksheet. These words will encourage the children to use the correct vocabulary to describe concepts such as balance, direction, distance, speed and time.

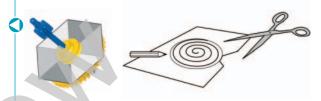
The worksheets can also help you in assessing the individual child's level and achievement. They also form a valuable part of the children's log books.

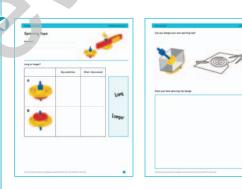
#### Problem-solving activities

Each of the 4 problem-solving activities starts off with a short story supported by an illustration featuring the problem that needs solving. To solve the problem a design brief states a number of criteria the children have to incorporate into their model solution. The 'Fair testing and fun' questions and suggested answers help focus the models to meet the design brief criteria and support the test situation. A suggested model solution helps you, the teacher, help the children. It is not the one and only solution to the problem! Children must always be encouraged to build their own solution to a given problem.

If possible, take a picture of the children's model solution and have them explain how they have solved the problem. Keep the picture as inspirational material for future problem solvers.









#### How much time do I need?

Each activity can be carried out within a lesson. A double lesson is ideal for more in-depth investigations of the key learning area and to allow children to make creative variations of their own. For the open-ended problem-solving activities children may need more time to build and explain their models.

Enjoy! **LEGO Education** 





# What are the curriculum highlights?

The process of children actively building, exploring, investigating, enquiring and communicating develops a wide range of skills, knowledge and understanding. For more details see the curriculum grid on the next page. Here is an overview:

#### Science

Investigating energy, force, speed, the effect of friction, reading scales, fair testing, predicting and measuring, collecting data, and describing outcomes.

#### Design and Technology

Investigating gears, wheels, axles, levers and pulleys; matching solutions to needs, choosing appropriate materials; designing, making and testing; using instructions in 2 dimensions to create 3-dimensional models; working cooperatively in a team; and evaluating.

#### **Mathematics**

Both non-standard and standard measurement of distance, time, weight (mass) and reading scales. Counting, calculating, shape and problem-solving.

|                      | Key Science Curriculum Scientific enquiry including investigating the effect of variables on the performance of simple machines, predicting and estimating the performance of simple machines. Careful observation, describing and presenting results, plus: | Key D&T Curriculum  Working with different mechanical and structural components to develop specific knowledge and understanding.  Evaluating products against technical criteria; developing design skills, plus: |
|----------------------|--|---|
| 1. Pinwheel          | <ul><li>Investigating wind power</li><li>Investigating area</li></ul>  | <ul><li>Properties of materials</li><li>Designing</li></ul>   |
| 2. Spinning Top      | <ul><li>Investigating gearing</li><li>Investigating rotation</li></ul>   | Designing mechanical toys     Structures and stability  |
| 3. Seesaw            | <ul><li>Investigating balance</li><li>Investigating weight</li></ul>   | Levers     Designing mechanical toys  |
| 4. Raft              | Investigating wind power     Investigating area  | Properties of materials   |
| 5. Car Launcher      | <ul><li>Investigating pushes</li><li>Investigating friction</li><li>Investigating inclined plane</li></ul>   | Mechanisms: wheels and axles  |
| 6. Measuring Car     | Reading scales to measure distance     Investigating forces  | Mechanisms: worm gear     Mechanisms: wheels and axles  |
| 7. Ice Hockey Player | <ul><li>Investigating gearing</li><li>Investigating forces</li></ul>   | Levers     Designing mechanical toys  |
| 8. Sam's New Dog     | Investigating pulley drive and gearing   | <ul><li>Designing mechanical toys</li><li>Mechanisms: pulley wheels</li></ul>   |



# Early Science & Technology Learning Grid

|  | 9656     |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
|--|----------|---------------|--------|------|--------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------|-----------|
|  | Pinwheel | Spinning Tops | Seesaw | Raft | Car Launcher | Measuring Car | Ice Hockey Player | Sam's New Dog | Crossing Crocodile River | Hot Day | Scarecrow |
| Science  |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Scientific inquiry                                     |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Conduct simple investigation                           |          |               |        |      | П            |               | П                 |               |                          |         |           |
| Using simple equipment and tools to gather information |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Communicate investigations and explanations            |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Fair testing   |          |               |        |      |              |               | П                 |               |                          |         |           |
| Properties of materials                                |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Describing position and direction                      |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Describing way of movement                             |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Pushes and pulls                                       |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Observations   |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Reasoning  |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Sharing findings                                       |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Teamwork   |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
|  |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Technology   |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Inventing and turning ideas into action                |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Solve problems through design                          |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Constructing and testing                               |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Making improvements                                    |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Discover how things work                               |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Energy comes in many different forms                   |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Transportation   |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Vehicles   |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Structures   |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Purposeful use of tools                                |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Expressing ideas to other                              |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
|  |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Engineering  |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Identifying need or problem                            |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Modeling in two and three dimensions                   |          |               |        |      | 닏            |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Test and evaluate                                      |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Redesigning Mosting design constraints                 |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Meeting design constraints                             |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Math   |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Whole number relationships                             |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Using standard and non-standard units                  |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Adds and subtracts whole numbers                       |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Estimating   |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Counting   |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| ·  |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Timing Measuring                                       |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| <u> </u>   |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Common language of spatial conso                       |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Common language of spatial sense                       |          |               |        |      | H            |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Organizing lists or tables of information              |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |
| Organizing and displaying data                         |          |               |        |      |              |               |                   |               |                          |         |           |



## 1. Pinwheel





# 2. Spinning Tops

#### Science

- Energy
- · Fair testing
- Measuring
- Movement

#### **Design and Technology**

- Combining materials
- Evaluating
- Game design
- · Gears

#### Vocabulary

- · Gearing up
- Speed
- Spin
- Stable
- Unstable

#### Other materials required

- Colored pencils or markers
- Paper
- Scissors
- Several square yards of smooth, flat floor space
- · Timer or clock



#### Connect

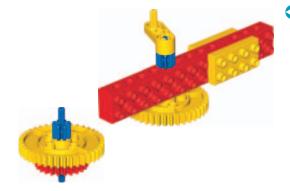
One day at the park Sam and Sara saw some other children playing with spinning tops. Their tops spun for a long time before falling over. Great fun! Sam and Sara thought about how to make some tops themselves and in no time they were spinning their own tops. But their tops didn't spin for long and soon their fingers started to hurt from all the spinning. They needed a device that could make the spinning tops spin faster and better!

Can you help Sam and Sara build a device that can make the spinning tops spin? Let's find out!



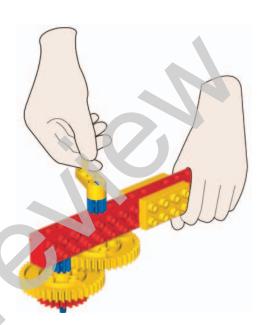
#### Construct

Build the Launcher and the Spinning Top using building instruction no. 2



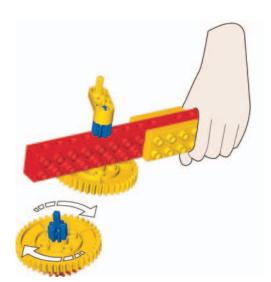


- Hold the launcher and place the gear end of the launcher over the blue gear axle
- The blue gear should mesh with the big yellow gear and spin as you turn the handle



Tip:
Launching tops requires
good coordination skills!
Try it yourself.

• To launch the top, turn the handle and lift the launcher straight upwards



Idea

It may be a good idea to let younger children play with the top and launcher before embarking on serious testing.

#### Contemplate

#### Long or longer?

The top can work in two ways. The yellow gear of the launcher can mesh with both the blue and the red gears of the top. Find out which top will spin longest.

First predict which top will spin for a long time and which top will spin even longer.

Write down your predictions using the words on the worksheet.

Next, test how long the tops will spin first using the blue 8-tooth gear and then the red 24-tooth gear.

Write down your findings using the words on the worksheet.

|   | My prediction | What I discovered |
|---|---------------|-------------------|
| A |               | Long              |
| В |               | Longer            |



# Have the children reflect on their tests by asking questions such as:

- What did you predict would happen and why?
- · Describe what happened.
- Was this a fair test?
   Did you turn the handle in tests A and B at the same speed? Did you test all the tops on the same surface?
- Describe how the model works.

#### Tip:

To accurately time how long the tops spin, use a standard measuring timer.

#### Did you know?

The blue gear has 8 teeth, the red has 24 teeth and the yellow gear has 40 teeth!







#### Continue

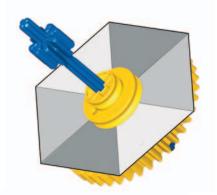
#### Can you design your own spinning top?

Design and make your own spinning tops.

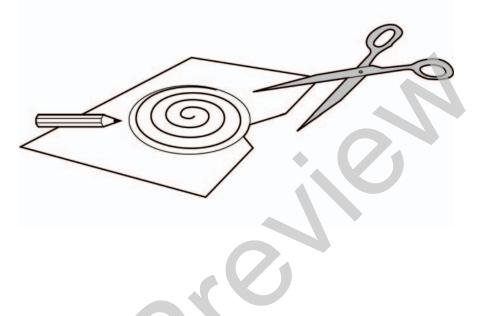
Consider which materials and shapes would be best.

Create amazing optical effects and tops for all sorts of games.

On the worksheet, draw your best spinning top design.



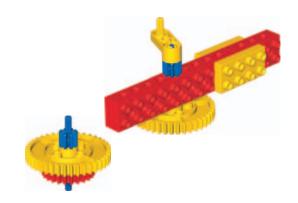




Spinning Tops Student Worksheet

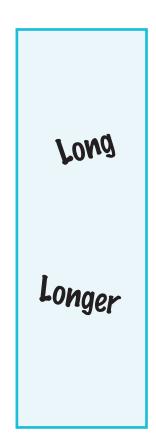
# **Spinning Tops**

| Name(s): |  |  |
|----------|--|--|
|          |  |  |



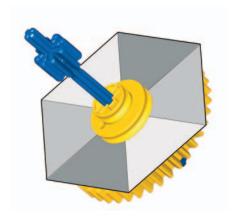
### Long or longer?

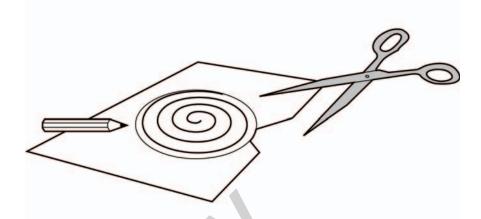
|   | My prediction | What I discovered |
|---|---------------|-------------------|
| A |               |                   |
| B |               |                   |



Spinning Tops Student Worksheet

## Can you design your own spinning top?





### Draw your best spinning top design

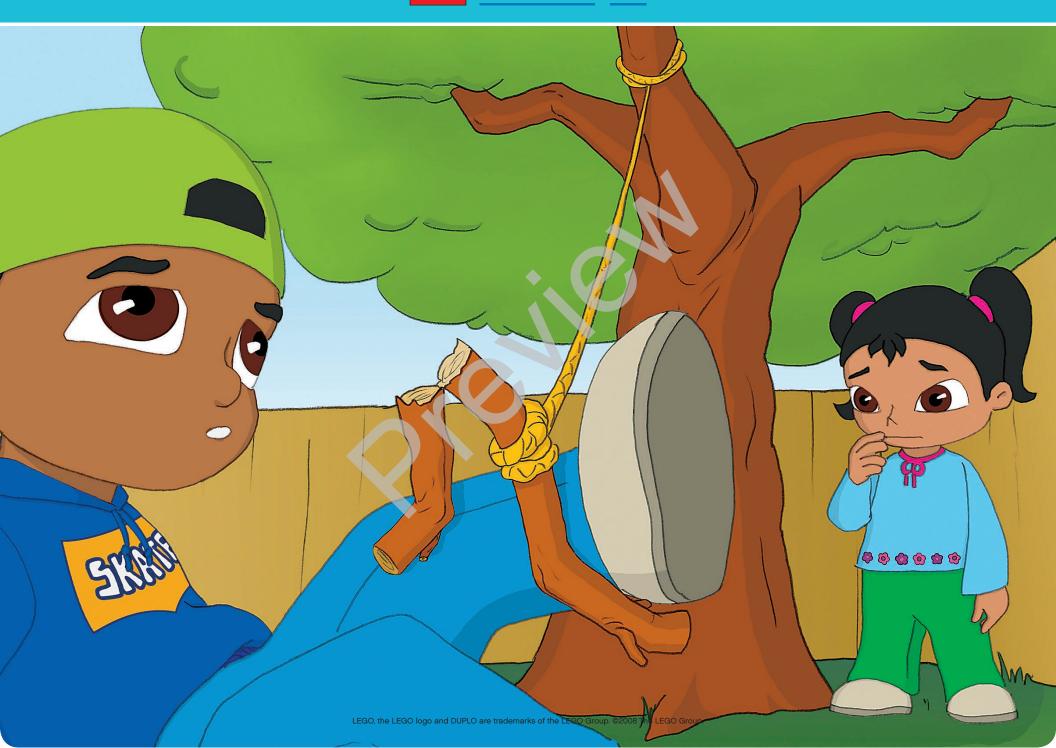






## 3. Seesaw







# Glossary

We have tried to make the glossary as understandable and practical as possible without getting stuck in difficult equations and long explanations.

Angle The space between two lines or planes that intersect; the inclination

of one line to another; measured in degrees or radians.

Area is a quantity expressing the size of a region of space.

**Axle** A rod through the center of a wheel, or through different parts of

a cam. It transmits force, via a transmission device, from an engine to the wheel in a car or from your arm via the wheel to the axle if

you are winding up a bucket on a rope.

Balanced force An object is balanced and does not move when all the forces acting

on it are equal and opposite.

Belt A continuous band stretched around two pulley wheels so one can

turn the other. It is usually designed to slip if the follower pulley

suddenly stops turning.

**Buoyancy** Buoyancy is an upward force on an object enabling it to float.

If the buoyancy exceeds the weight, then the object floats;

if the weight exceeds the buoyancy, the object sinks.

**D Driver** The part of a machine, usually a gear, pulley, lever, crank or axle,

where the force first comes into the machine.

E Efficiency A measure of how much of the force that goes into a machine

comes out as useful work. Friction often wastes a lot of energy,

thus reducing the efficiency of a machine.

**Energy** The capacity to do work. You get energy from food.

The Ice Hockey Player and Spinning Top get their energy from you.

Fair testing Measuring the performance of a machine by comparing its

performance under different conditions.

Follower Usually a gear, pulley or lever driven by another one.

It can also be a lever driven by a cam.

Force A push or a pull.

**Friction** The resistance met when one surface is sliding over another,

e.g. when an axle is turning in a hole or when you rub your

hands together.

Fulcrum See pivot.

Gear A gear is a toothed wheel. A way to classify gears is by the number

of teeth they have, e.g. an 8-tooth gear or a 40-tooth gear.

Gears can be used to transfer force, increase or reduce speed, and

change the direction of rotary motion.

Gear, crown Has teeth that stick out on one side, making it look like a crown.

Mesh it with a second crown gear or a regular spur gear to turn

the angle of motion through 90°.

**Gear, worm** A gear with one spiral tooth resembling a screw.

Mesh it with another gear to deliver large forces very slowly.

**Gearing down** A small gear turns a larger gear and amplifies the force from

the effort. But the follower turns more slowly.

**Gearing up** A large gear turns a small gear and reduces the force from

the effort. But the follower turns more quickly.

Lever A lever is a device that makes work easier.

It is one of the most widely used of the simple machines. Seesaws, scissors, nail clippers, tongs, pianos, parking meters,

pliers and wheelbarrows all use levers to operate.

Mass is the quantity of matter in an object. On Earth, gravitational

force pulling your matter makes you weigh say 50 lbs. In orbit, you

feel weightless - but you still have a mass of 50 lbs.

Often confused with weight.

Pivot In a seesaw, the pivot point is in the middle. The pivot point does

not always have to be in the middle of the lever. In some types or classes of levers, the pivot point may be at one end, such as in

a wheelbarrow.

**Power** The strength and speed at which a machine does work.

**Pulley** A pulley is a simple machine which usually consists of a grooved

wheel round which a rope, cable or chain is placed. A pulley is used

to transfer force, alter speed or to turn another wheel.

Resetting Turning a pointer on a scale back to zero again. For instance,

resetting the Measuring Car's scale.

**Rotation** Turning or moving about a central fixed point. Rotation is

the movement of a body in such a way that the distance between a certain fixed point and any given point of that body

remains constant.

Speed Speed describes the change in position in a certain period of time.

Unbalanced force A force that is not opposed by an equal and opposite force.

An object feeling an unbalanced force must begin to move

in some way; for instance the unbalanced seesaw.

Weight See Mass.

# education

# **LEGO® Element Survey**



LEGO® DUPLO® girl 4271511



Brick with arch, 2x3, red 230221



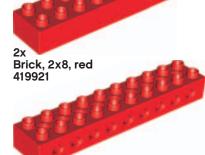
3x Brick, 2x2, yellow 343724



Brick, 2x2, red 343721



Brick, 2x2, green



Brick with holes, 2x10, red 75350



LEGO® DUPLO® boy 4502103



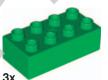
4x Brick with holes, 2x4, red 75349



5x Brick, 2x4, yellow 301124



Brick, 2x4, red 301121



Brick, 2x4, green 301128



Brick with eyes, oval, 2x4x2, yellow 81981



Plate, 2x4, yellow 4160152



Bridge element, 2x4x2, yellow 4221004



Beam, 7-module, yellow 652424



2x String with hook, yellow 75536



2x Gear, 24-tooth crown, blue 4501054



4x Axle with gear, 5-module, 8-tooth, blue 652323



1x Worm gear, blue 4271573



2x Gear, 24-tooth crown, red 652921



2x Axle with gear, 8-module, 8-tooth, blue 4113296



6x Connector peg, handle, yellow 4493718



2x Gear, 40-tooth crown, yellow 4501044



7x Axle, 6-module, grey 4211534



2x Belt, blue 71059



15x Hub/pulley wheel, yellow 4271570



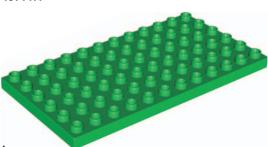
5x Axle, 8-module, green 652128



1x Gear block, transparent 4113297



4x Tyre, black 4514411



1x Plate, 6x12, green 4281607



Plastic forms sheet, green 4520270



Visit the Activity Bank on the LEGO® Education website to download free examples of activities developed for our school portfolio.

LEGO Education reserves the right to make changes to the product assortment and packaging.
LEGO, the LEGO logo and DUPLO are trademarks of the LEGO Group. ©2007 The LEGO Group.



