

Lego Fun with Mandarin! (第一课! 乐高学颜色与数字! Lǎo gōng xué zhāngwǎn!)

Materials Needed:

- Assortment of Lego bricks in basic colors (specifically including red, blue, yellow, green, white)
- Optional: Pre-made flashcards with Pinyin and Chinese characters for colors/numbers
- A small container or designated mat area for sorting Lego bricks

Lesson Activities:

1. Introduction (5 minutes)

- Greet the student warmly: "你好! 你好!" (Hello!)
- Introduce the lesson's fun theme: "Today, we'll learn Mandarin using Legos!"
今天我们要用乐高学中文!
- Show excitement about using their favorite toy for learning.

2. Learning Colors (10 minutes)

- Introduce one color at a time using a Lego brick.
- **Red (红色 hóng sè):** Hold up a red Lego. Say "红色". Have the student repeat 2-3 times. Ask the student to find another red brick.
- **Blue (蓝色 lán sè):** Repeat the process with a blue Lego. Say "蓝色". Student repeats and finds one.
- **Yellow (黄色 huáng sè):** Repeat with yellow. Say "黄色". Student repeats and finds one.
- **Green (绿色 lǜ sè):** Repeat with green. Say "绿色". Student repeats and finds one.
- **White (白色 bái sè):** Repeat with white. Say "白色". Student repeats and finds one.
- Use optional flashcards to reinforce visual recognition of Pinyin/characters if desired. Practice all colors together.

3. Activity - Color Sorting Game (10 minutes)

- Mix a pile of the five colors of Lego bricks on the mat or in the container.
- Instruct the student: "Let's sort the Legos! Put all the red here, all the blue there..." (Use gestures).
- As the student sorts, encourage them to say the Mandarin color name for each pile they create. ("This pile is red", "This pile is blue", etc.). Provide help and praise.

4. Learning Numbers 1-5 (5 minutes)

- Use Lego bricks to introduce numbers.
- Stack one brick: "一" (one). Have the student repeat.
- Stack two bricks: "二" (two). Student repeats.
- Continue up to five: "三" (three), "四" (four), "五" (five). Have the student

repeat each number.

- Quick practice: Hold up 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 fingers and have the student count out that many Lego bricks, saying the number in Mandarin.

5. Activity - Build & Say (10 minutes)

- Introduce the simple sentence structure: "è [éçœè%²] çš, ä¹é«" (Zhǎn shǎn [yǎinsǎn] de Lǎn gǎn) - "This is a [color] Lego."
- Model first: Hold up a green Lego and say clearly: "è ç»è%²çš, ä¹é«" (Zhǎn shǎn lǚ sǎn de Lǎn gǎn).
- Encourage the student to pick up a Lego brick. Ask (in English is fine initially): "What color is this?" Wait for the Mandarin color name.
- Help them construct the sentence: "Zhǎn shǎn... [their color word]... de Lǎn gǎn."
- Let the student build a small tower or structure. As they add bricks, encourage them to name the color or try the simple sentence. Focus on participation and effort, not perfection.

6. Wrap-up & Review (5 minutes)

- Quickly review the colors and numbers learned using the Lego bricks. Point to different colored bricks and ask "What color?" (ä¹éçœè%²? Shǎnme yǎinsǎn?). Count a small stack together.
- Offer lots of positive reinforcement: "Great job! ä½ äš¼—ä¼! NÇ zuǎ² de hǎn hçžo!" or "You are awesome! ä½ ä¼! NÇ hǎn bǎng!"
- End the lesson with a cheerful goodbye: "ät! Zǎnjiǎn!" (Goodbye!)